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Email: news@arubatoday.com Website: www.arubatoday.com Tuesday, January 19, 2010

INSIDE TODAY

WORLD NEWS

POPE GUNMAN



A Jan 12, 2006 file photo shows Mehmet Ali Agca, the Turkish gunman who shot Pope John Paul II in 1981, in Istanbul, Turkey. Agca was released from prison on Monday Jan. 18, 2010 after more than 29 years behind bars.

Read more on Page 7

SPORTS NEWS

NHL ROUNDUP



New York Islanders goalie Rick DiPietro, left, celebrates his shutout with teammate Trent Hunter (7) after the Islanders defeated the New Jersey Devils 4-0 in an NHL hockey game at the Nassau Coliseum in Uniondale, N.Y., Monday, Jan. 18, 2010.

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Civil rights icon King remembered

ERRIN HAINES

Associated Press Writer

ATLANTA (AP) — Worshippers were warned Monday not to “sanitize” the legacy of Rev. Martin Luther King Jr. at the Atlanta church where he preached, while others were going to march in Alabama and President Barack Obama honored King by serving meals to the needy. Princeton University scholar Cornel West delivered a passionate keynote address at Ebenezer Baptist Church, commemorating King’s 81st birthday and marking the 25th federal observance of the holiday.

West urged his audience in the church where King preached from 1960 until his assassination in 1968 to remember King’s call to help others and not simply enshrine his legacy in “some distant museum.” King should be remembered as a



Bernice King, daughter of Martin Luther King Jr., joins hands with Atlanta Mayor Kasim Reed, left, and her cousin Isaac Newton Farris as they sing “We Shall Overcome” during the Martin Luther King Jr commemorative service at Ebenezer Baptist Church Monday, Jan. 18, 2010 in Atlanta.

Associated Press

vital person whose powerful message was once even considered dangerous by the FBI, he said. “I don’t want to sanitize Martin Luther King

Jr.,” said West, who teaches in Princeton’s Center for African American Studies and is the author of “Race Matters” and 19 other books.

He later added, “I don’t know about you, but I don’t even mention his name without shivering and shuddering.”

Continued on Next Page

More troops, aid go to Haiti, hunger persists

ALFRED de MONTESQUIOU

MICHELLE FAUL

Associated Press Writers

PORT-AU-PRINCE, Haiti (AP) — Troops, doctors and aid workers flowed into Haiti on Monday and officials said billions of dollars more will be needed following the quake that killed an estimated 200,000 people and left many still struggling to find a cup of water or a handful of food.

European nations pledged more than a half-billion dollars in emergency and long-term aid, on top of at least \$100 million promised earlier by the U.S. The president of the neighboring Dominican Republic said it will cost far more to finally rebuild the country: \$10 billion.

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People beg for food and water outside a supermarket in Port-au-Prince, Monday, Jan. 18, 2010. Troops, doctors and aid workers flowed into Haiti on Monday even while hundreds of thousands of Tuesday’s quake victims struggled to find water or food.

Associated Press





President Barack Obama talks as first lady Michelle Obama, left, and Mable Harvey, 102, right, from Washington, D.C., look on, after a conversation with a small group of African American seniors and their grandchildren on the legacy of the civil rights movement in the Roosevelt Room of the White House in Washington Monday, Jan. 18, 2010.

CIVIL RIGHTS

Continued from Front Page

Speaking days before the anniversary of Obama's inauguration, West also told the mostly black audience to hold Obama's administration

accountable even as they celebrate his historic presidency as the country's first black president. "Even with your foot on the brake, there are too many precious brothers and sisters

under the bus," West said of Obama.

"Where is the talk about poverty? We've got to protect him and respect him, but we've also got to correct him if the legacy of Martin

Associated Press

Luther King Jr. is going to stay alive."

King's youngest daughter, Bernice King, presided over the ceremony with her aunt, Christine King Farris, the slain civil rights leader's only living sibling. His other children, Martin Luther King III and Dexter King, didn't attend the service.

In Washington, D.C., Obama honored King's legacy of service by serving meals to the needy.

Later Monday, Obama discussed the civil rights movement with a group of black elders and their grandchildren and was slated to speak at a King Day concert at the Kennedy Center.

Obama and Mrs. Obama sat around a conference table in the Roosevelt Room for a discussion with people who had been active in the civil rights movement, including Dorothy Height, the longtime chairwoman of the National Council of Negro Women,

and Willie Glanton, the first black woman elected to Iowa's state Legislature in the mid-1960s.

Obama told reporters the conversation served as a reminder "that there were some extraordinarily courageous young people ... who were actively involved in bringing about one of the great moments in United States history."

In San Antonio, Texas, tens of thousands marched, with some singing "We shall overcome," an anthem of 1960s civil rights workers, and others chanting "Yes, we can," the slogan used by Obama's campaign.

A march is also planned in Montgomery, Alabama, where King gained renown leading a bus boycott in protest of segregation during the 1950s.

King, the 1964 Nobel Peace Prize winner, is the only black American whose birthday is a national holiday. □



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Taco Bell founder dead at 86

RANCHO SANTA FE, California (AP) — Glen W. Bell Jr., an entrepreneur best known as the founder of the Taco Bell chain, has died. He was 86.

Bell died Sunday at his home in Rancho Santa Fe, according to a statement posted Monday on the Taco Bell Web site.

The Southern California-based company did not release a cause of death.

"Glen Bell was a visionary and innovator in the restaurant

industry, as well as a dedicated family man," Greg Creed, president of Taco Bell, said in the statement.

Bell launched his first restaurant, called Bell's Drive-In, in 1948 in San Bernardino after seeing the success of McDonald's Bar-B-Que, the predecessor of McDonald's, which was founded in the same city in 1940. Like McDonald's, Bell's restaurant sought to take advantage of Southern California's car culture by

serving hamburgers and hot dogs through drive-in windows.

The World War II veteran next helped establish Taco Tias in Los Angeles, El Tacos in the Long Beach area, and Der Wienerschnitzel, a national hot dog chain.

Bell launched Taco Bell in 1962 in Downey after cutting ties with his business partners and quickly expanding around Los Angeles.

He sold the first Taco Bell franchise in 1964. In 1978, Bell sold his 868 Taco Bell restaurants to PepsiCo for \$125 million in stock.

Taco Bell is now owned by Yum! Brands and is the largest Mexican fast-food chain in the nation, serving more than 36.8 million



In this photo Taco Bell founder Glen W. Bell Jr. is shown. Bell died Sunday, Jan. 17, 2010, at his home in Rancho Santa Fe, Calif., according to a statement posted Monday on the Taco Bell Web site. He was 86.

Associated Press

consumers each week in more than 5,600 U.S. locations.

Bell is survived by his wife,

Martha, three sisters, two sons, a daughter and four grandchildren. □

Soldier guilty of cruelty and maltreatment in Iraq

By JOANNE VIVIANO

Associated Press Writer

COLUMBUS, Ohio — A military panel in Kuwait convicted a U.S. soldier of being cruel and mistreating fellow soldiers, a case undertaken after an Army private from Ohio committed suicide in Iraq.

Staff Sgt. Enoch Chatman, of West Covina, Calif., was convicted Wednesday on two violations of the cruelty and maltreatment article of the Uniform Code of Military Justice, said Lt. Col. Kevin Olson, a military spokesman in Iraq.

Chatman was one of four soldiers accused of mistreating others in their platoon in Iraq through verbal abuse, physical punishment and ridicule of other soldiers.

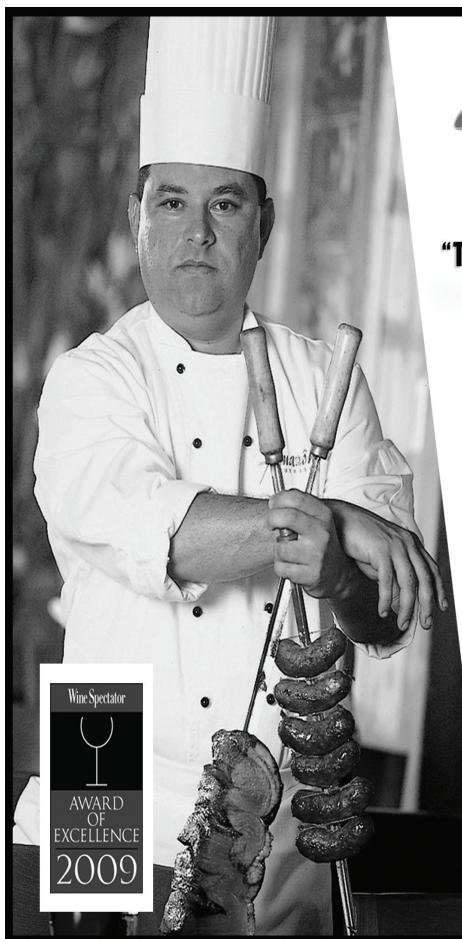
The investigation was prompted by the August death of Pvt. Keiffer Wilhelm, who grew up in Willard in northwest Ohio.

Wilhelm, 19, was in Iraq with his new platoon for just 10 days before he killed himself. His family believes he was treated so badly that he took his own life, but the military has determined there was no direct evidence the four soldiers' misconduct caused the death.

His father, Shane Wilhelm, attended the trial and said he was glad Chatman "got something" but is not completely satisfied with the outcome.

"We're glad that he was found guilty because he was there for most of the occurrences that took place to our son," he said. "He was in a position to prevent this from happening, and he didn't."

Wilhelm's mother has said he called her twice from Iraq and told her he was being targeted in his new unit and forced to run for miles with rocks in his pockets that smashed against his knees. He also told his mother that he was being forced to exercise for hours and that his personal items were disappearing, she said. □



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Massachusetts Senate candidates battle to the end

By BETH FOUHY

Associated Press Writer

BOSTON — Nearly one year to the day after President Barack Obama was sworn into office as an agent of change, Massachusetts Senate candidates battled to the wire Monday in an election that threatened his agenda and reflected voters' frustration with the status quo.

Democrat Martha Coakley and Republican Scott Brown scoured the state for votes on the eve of the special election to succeed the late Edward M. Kennedy, with the Democrats' 60-vote Senate supermajority at stake.

From a distance, the president made one last appeal in a TV ad for Coakley, his words reflecting how much was on the line for Democrats in the face of a surprisingly strong challenge by Republican Scott Brown in a state that hasn't elected a Republican senator since 1972.

"Every vote matters, every voice matters," Obama said in the ad that showed him campaigning with Coakley a day earlier. "We need you on Tuesday."

Obama needs Coakley, the state's attorney general, to win to deny Republicans the ability to block his initiatives — specifically the near-complete health care plan



Massachusetts Attorney General Martha Coakley waves to supporters as Mass. State Senate President Therese Murray, left, applauds at a campaign rally in Framingham, Mass. Monday, Jan. 18, 2010. and Massachusetts State Senator Scott Brown, R-Wrentham, campaigns outside the T.D. Garden before a Boston Bruins hockey game in Boston, Mass., Monday, Jan. 18, 2010. Brown is running against Democrat Martha Coakley and Joseph Kennedy, a Libertarian who is running as an independent, in a special election to fill the U.S. Senate seat left empty by the death of Sen. Edward M. Kennedy, D-Mass.

Associated Press

— with a filibuster-sustaining 41st Republican vote. A Coakley loss also would be an embarrassment, particularly because Obama has put so much political capital on the line.

A Suffolk University survey taken Saturday and Sunday shows Brown with double-digit leads in three communities the poll identified as bellwethers: Gardner, Fitchburg and

Peabody. But internal statewide polls for both sides show a dead-heat.

Backers of Coakley and Brown worked feverishly to identify their supporters and persuade undecided voters to move their way. Each side deployed armies of volunteers to man phone banks and trudge door to door through ice and snow to encourage people to vote.

A third candidate in the

race, Joseph L. Kennedy, a Libertarian running as an independent, said Monday he's been bombarded with e-mails from Brown supporters urging him to drop out and endorse the Republican. But Kennedy, who is polling in the single digits and is no relation to the late senator, said he's staying in.

Special elections tend to draw relatively few voters, but

Republicans and Democrats predicted a high turnout Tuesday. The Massachusetts electorate, like the country at large, is dissatisfied with the country's direction, and those disgruntled voters are expected to vote their passions in droves.

Democrats, who until just a week ago considered the race a lock for Coakley, have been forced to scramble for votes in a state where Democrats outnumber Republicans 3-1. Brown has thrown Democrats for a loop, riding a wave of voter anger with Obama's health care plan and what critics call big government spending to pull the race even.

The concern among Democrats was clear when they trotted out Massachusetts Sen. John Kerry to accuse Brown backers of dirty tricks.

Trying desperately to slow Brown's momentum, Coakley and fellow Democrats rolled out a fresh round of automated calls to voters from Vice President Joe Biden and from Vicki Kennedy, the late senator's widow. They were targeting voters who propelled Obama to victory in 2008. Get-out-the-vote programs were in full swing on campuses across the state, and ads courted the state's large Portuguese and Haitian communities.

Obama's TV appeal mostly was intended to encourage the Democratic base to vote. Democrats need their base to turn out big, given that surveys showed Brown leading among independents and Republicans incredibly energized about his candidacy. □

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Rapes of elderly women terrify central Texas towns

PAUL J. WEBER

Associated Press Writer

YOAKUM, Texas (AP) — Cassandra McGinty has had the same routine upon arriving home for the past four months, doing a room-to-room search with her handgun or stun gun drawn.

A sexual predator has been assaulting elderly women in central Texas over the past year, terrifying residents and frustrating investigators who have only a vague description of the suspect.

Pepper spray has been flying off the shelves in the towns where the attacks have occurred, and McGinty, of Marquez, said her landlord handed out stun guns as Christmas gifts. Nearly 200 miles away in Yoakum, elderly volunteers at the local museum have been locking its doors during business hours. "I used to think I was too old for anybody to mess with," said McGinty, 55. "I can't say that anymore."

Beginning with the rape of a 65-year-old woman in Yoakum last January, authorities have linked eight sexual assaults or attempted sexual assaults to the suspect, who has been dubbed the "Twilight Rapist" because most of the attacks occurred around dawn. They also believe he robbed or attempted to rob four other women.

The victims have all been women, ranging in age from 65 to 91. One rape victim played piano at her church on Sundays.

An 81-year-old woman scared off an intruder with a gun, firing several rounds for good measure. A 66-year-old woman was attacked twice, despite having moved across town following the first assault.

The attacks occurred in seven rural towns, the largest of which has 6,000 residents.

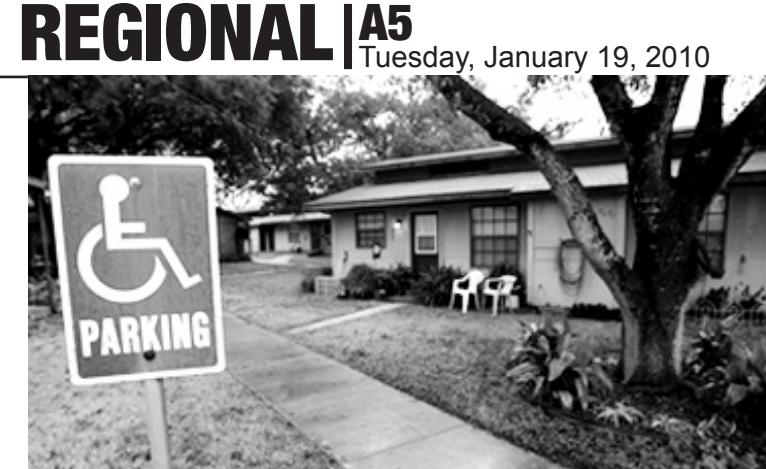
Two women were attacked — one of them twice — in Yoakum, a quiet town surrounded by wide-open ranches about 100 miles east of San Antonio.

"It does make me sick," Yoakum Police Chief Arthur Rogers said. "We all take it personal. We all visualize this could have been my mother or my grandmother."

Mela Walker, who has a ranch in nearby Cuero, organized a community meeting last spring after the Yoakum attacks and

handed out pepper spray as a door prize for the nearly 300 people who showed up.

"They're freaked out," Walker said. "These elderly women are buying Mace and not knowing how to use it. They talk about buying guns, and they don't know how to use guns." □



Jennings Retirement Village where an elderly woman was attacked in attempted rape is seen in Luling, Texas, Thursday, Dec. 17, 2009. Authorities are investigating 12 incidents, at least eight of them rapes, that happened across South and Central Texas from January to November; Many of these cases have been linked by physical evidence, including DNA, according to officials.

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HAITI**Continued from Front Page**

Help was still not reaching many victims of Tuesday's quake — choked back by transportation bottlenecks, bureaucratic confusion, fear of attacks on aid convoys, the collapse of local authority and the sheer scale of the need.

Looting spread to more parts of downtown Port-au-Prince as hundreds of young men and boys clambered up broken walls to break into shops and take whatever they can find. Especially prized was toothpaste, which people smear under their noses to fend off the stench of decaying bodies.

At a collapsed and burning shop in the market area, youths used broken bottles, machetes and razors to battle for bottles of rum and police fired shots to break up the crowd.

"I am drinking as much as I can. It gives courage," said Jean-Pierre Junior, wielding a broken wooden plank with nails to protect his bottle of

rum.

Even so, the U.S. Army's on-the-ground commander, Lt. Gen. Ken Keen, said the city is seeing less violence than before the earthquake. "Is there gang violence? Yes. Was there gang violence before the earthquake? Absolutely."

U.S. officials say some 2,200 Marines were arriving to join 1,700 U.S. troops now on the ground and U.N. Secretary-General Ban Ki-moon announced Monday he wants 1,500 more U.N. police and 2,000 more troops to join the existing 7,000 military peacekeepers and 2,100 international police in Haiti.

While aid workers tried to make their way into Haiti, many people tried to leave. Hundreds of U.S. citizens, or people claiming to be, waved IDs as they formed a long line outside the U.S. Embassy in hopes of arranging a flight out of the country.

Dominican President Leonel Fernandez, hosting an international meeting to plan



Haitian children carry military meals distributed by troops of the 82nd Airborne Division in Port-au-Prince, Haiti, Saturday, Jan. 16, 2010. With aid flowing into Haiti, relief groups and officials are focused on moving the supplies to the survivors of the powerful earthquake that hit the country on Tuesday.

Associated Press

strategy for Haiti, said it would cost \$10 billion over five years to reconstruct the country and confront the immediate emergency.

Roughly 200,000 people may have been killed in the magnitude-7.0 quake, the European Union said, quoting Haitian officials who also said about 70,000 bodies have been recovered so far.

EU officials estimated that about 250,000 were injured and 1.5 million were homeless.

Even many people whose houses survived are sleeping outside for aftershocks will collapse unstable buildings. And while the U.N. said that more than 73,000 people have received a week's rations, many more still wait.

So many people have lost homes that the World Food Program is planning a tent camp for 100,000 people — an instant city the size of Burbank, California — on the outskirts of Port-au-Prince, according to the agency's country director, Myrta Kaulard.

About 50,000 people already sleep each night on the city golf course where the U.S. 82nd Airborne Division has set up an aid camp.

In town, bodies still lay in the street six days after the quake, but Haitians had made progress in hauling many away for burial or burning. People were seen dragging corpses to intersections in hopes that

garbage trucks or aid groups would arrive to take them away.

Six days after the quake, dozens of rescue crews were still working to rescue victims trapped under piles of concrete and debris.

"There are still people living" in collapsed buildings, U.N. humanitarian spokeswoman Elisabeth Byrs told The Associated Press. "Hope continues."

She said some might survive until Monday — and a few special cases could make it further: Rescuers pulled a 30-year-old man and a 40-year-old woman from a ruined supermarket on Sunday. Officials said they had survived for so long by eating food where they were trapped.

Stunned by images of the disaster, the European Union Commission said it would contribute €330 million (\$474 million) in emergency and long-term aid to Haiti.

EU member states also poured €92 million (\$132 million) in emergency aid, including 20 million pounds (\$32.7 million) from Britain and €10 million (\$14.4 million) from France, which also said it was willing to forgive Haiti's €40 million (\$55.7 million) debt.

"The impact of this earthquake is magnified because it has hit a country that was already desperately poor and

historically volatile," said British Development Secretary Douglas Alexander.

U.S. officials, meanwhile, agreed with U.N. officials on a system to grant priority to humanitarian flights, responded to criticism that military and rescue flights had sometimes been first in line, according to the U.N.

Some countries and aid groups such as Geneva-based Doctors Without Borders had complained planes filled with doctors and medical supplies had been forced to land in the neighboring Dominican Republic and come in by road, delaying urgent care for injured quake victims by two days.

The problem may be eased by U.S. expansion of the cramped airport's capacity.

The U.S. military spokesman in Haiti, Cmdr. Chris Louderman, said about 100 flights a day are now landing, up from 60 last week. "The ramp was designed for 16 large aircraft," he said. "At times there were up to 40. That's why there was gridlock."

In Paris, French Cooperation Minister Alain Joyandet expressed concern about the major U.S. military role in the country, saying it should be clarified: "This is about helping Haiti, not about occupying Haiti," said Joyandet, who last week complained about U.S. handling of the airport. □

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Pope John Paul II gunman released from prison

SUZAN FRASER

Associated Press Writer

ANKARA, Turkey (AP)

— The Turkish man who shot Pope John Paul II nearly 29 years ago emerged from prison and declared himself a messenger from God, then spent his first night of freedom in a luxury hotel room.

Mehmet Ali Agca, 52, said Monday he would talk to the media in the next few days. But it seemed doubtful that his comments would clear up uncertainty over whether he acted alone or had the backing of communist agents, as he once claimed. He has issued contradictory statements over the years and there are questions about his mental health.

Agca shot John Paul on May 13, 1981, as the pope rode in an open car in St. Peter's Square. The pontiff was hit in the abdomen, left hand and right arm.

John Paul met with Agca in Italy's Rebibbia prison in 1983 and forgave him.

Following his release, Agca, his hair now gray, waved to journalists and sat calmly between two plainclothes policemen in the back of a sedan that took him to a military hospital. There, doctors concluded he was unfit for compulsory military service because of "severe anti-social personality disorder," said his lawyer, Yilmaz Abosoglu.

Upon his arrival later at the five-star Sheraton hotel, he addressed reporters in English. He had traded the blue sweat shirt he wore when he left jail for a dark blue suit and tie.

"I will meet you in the next three days," Agca said. "In the name of God Almighty, I proclaim the end of the world in this century. All the world will be destroyed, every human being will die. I am not God, I am not son of God, I am Christ eternal."

Agca, who has previously



Mehmet Ali Agca, centre, who shot Pope John-Paul II in Rome in 1981, speaks to the surrounding media as he arrives at a hotel after he was released from prison in Ankara, Turkey, Monday, Jan. 18, 2010. Agca was released from prison on Monday after more than 29 years behind bars.

Associated Press

claimed to be the Messiah, said the Gospel was full of mistakes and he would write the perfect one. He delivered a similar message in a long, rambling statement distributed by Abosoglu outside the prison in Sincan on the outskirts of Ankara, the Turkish capital. Another lawyer, Gokay Gultekin, said Agca was planning to hold a news conference Wednesday.

An army of journalists created chaos in the hotel lobby, scattering chairs as hotel staff looked on helplessly. Agca then took the elevator to his room, where he rested in the company of his brother Adnan Agca and some friends, Gultekin said.

His brother said they were likely to travel to Istanbul later in the week.

Agca, who has said he wants to travel to the Vatican, does not have a passport. One of his lawyers once said that Agca had converted to Christianity while in jail. The motive for the attack on the pope remains unclear but it has not been linked to Islamic issues.

Vatican spokesman Rev.

Federico Lombardi said there were no plans to comment on the release. Robert Necek, spokesman for Cardinal Stanislaw Dziwisz of Krakow, Poland, who served as secretary to John Paul II, also would not comment.

When Agca was arrested, minutes after the attack, he said he had acted alone. Later, he suggested Bulgaria and the Soviet Union's KGB were behind the attack, but then backed away from that assertion. His contradictory statements have frustrated prosecutors over the decades. Prosecutors in Poland who are investigating Agca's attack on Pope John Paul II said his release had no influence on the investigation.

"Testimony from a person who first sells the information to the media ... is of no value to us," prosecutor Ewa Koj of the National Remembrance Institute said. Koj also noted that Agca had changed his testimony many times.

Prosecutors at the institute are studying over 4,000 pages of documents, including Agca's testimony, they have received

killing journalist Abdi Ipekci in 1979.

He had received a life sentence, which amounts to 36 years under Turkish law, for murdering Ipekci, but he escaped from a Turkish prison less than six months into the sentence and shot the pope in Rome two years later.

Agca reportedly sympathized with the Gray Wolves, a far right-wing militant group that fought street battles against leftists in the 1970s. He initially confessed to killing Ipekci, one of the country's most prominent left-wing newspaper columnists, but later retracted that.

After his extradition on June 14, 2000, Agca was separately sentenced to seven years and four months for two robberies in Turkey in 1979. But authorities deducted the prison sentence he had served in Italy, and several amnesties and amendments of the penal code further reduced his term. The situation complicated the calculation of his remaining term and led to his wrongful release from prison in 2006. He was re-imprisoned eight days later. □

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Taliban attacks paralyze Afghan capital for hours

RAHIM FAIEZ

ROBERT H. REID

Associated Press Writers

KABUL (AP) — Taliban militants wearing explosive vests launched a brazen daylight assault Monday on the center of Kabul, with suicide bombings and gunbattles near the presidential palace and other government buildings that paralyzed the city for hours. Afghan forces along with NATO advisers managed to restore order after nearly five hours of fighting as explosions and machine gunfire echoed across the mountain-rimmed city, sending terrified Afghans racing for cover. Twelve people were killed, including seven attackers, officials said. The assault by a handful of determined militants dramatized the vulnerability of the Afghan capital, undermining public confidence in President Hamid Karzai's government and its U.S.-led allies.

The attacks also suggested that the mostly rural Taliban are prepared to strike at the heart of the Afghan state — even as the United States and its international partners are

rushing 37,000 reinforcements to join the eight-year war.

"We are so concerned, so disappointed about the security in the capital," said Mohammad Hussain, a 25-year-old shopkeeper who witnessed the fighting. "Tens of thousands of U.S. and NATO troops are being sent to Afghanistan, yet security in the capital is deteriorating." The violence began shortly before 10 a.m. and persisted until mid-afternoon with attacks at four locations within an area of less than one square mile (2 1/2 square kilometers).

The attack unfolded as Cabinet members were being sworn in by President Hamid Karzai despite that parliament's rejection of most of his choices. Presidential spokesman Waheed Omar said the ceremony occurred as scheduled and that everybody in the palace was safe.

In the first assault, a suicide bomber detonated his explosives at Pashtunistan Square, a major intersection near the gates to the presidential palace, the Central Bank and the luxury Serena



A shopping center burns in central Kabul, Afghanistan, Monday, Jan. 18, 2010. Taliban militants struck the heart of the Afghan government in Kabul on Monday, prompting fierce gunbattles after a suicide bomber blew himself up near the presidential palace. More explosions rocked the capital as Afghan troops fought off the attackers.

Associated Press

Hotel, which is frequented by Westerners.

Clashes broke out as other militants fought with Afghan troops, who converged quickly on the scene in pickup trucks and armored vehicles. Police sealed off the area and helicopters buzzed overhead.

Several attackers then stormed into a nearby shopping mall, prompting a standoff with security forces. Two bombers were killed when their explosives detonated, setting the four-story building ablaze. About 11:17 a.m., another suicide attacker drove toward the area in an ambulance but blew himself up after he was challenged at a checkpoint near the Education Ministry.

At about 1 p.m., three other attackers entered another commercial building housing offices and stores, holding off security forces for about two hours before they were killed. Details were provided by Interior Minister Hanif Atmar at a press conference.

The dead included an intelligence agent, two policemen and two civilians, including one child, according to Atmar. He said 71 other people were wounded, including 35 civilians. Most of the injuries were caused by hand grenade attacks hurled by the militants, he said.

Taliban spokesman Zabiullah Mujahid told The Associated Press that 20 armed militants, including some with suicide vests, had entered Kabul to target the presidential palace and other government buildings in the center of the capital. Afghan authorities said seven militants were

killed but that it was possible others were burned in the shopping center blaze.

It was the biggest assault on the capital since Oct. 28, when three gunmen with automatic weapons and suicide vests stormed a guest house used by U.N. staff, killing at least 11 people including five U.N. workers. Taliban suicide bombers and gunmen also struck government buildings in the capital in February 2009, killing more than 20 people.

But Monday's fighting persisted longer than any initiated by the Taliban in the capital since they were driven from power by the U.S. and its allies in 2001.

Flights into Kabul International Airport were suspended for several hours. Many shops closed, and the city's normally congested streets were largely empty of vehicles. Large plumes of white smoke rose into the cloudless sky.

At the Finance Ministry, employee Emal Masood said he and his colleagues were evacuated into the corridors while Afghan government forces used the roof to fire on militants in nearby buildings. "The fight was intensifying moment by moment," he told BBC Television by phone. "We were able to see the fear in everybody's eyes." □

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Judge sentences 'Toronto 18' ringleader

ROB GILLIES

Associated Press Writer

BRAMPTON, Ontario (AP) — The ringleader of a homegrown terror plot that planned to set off truck bombs in front of Canada's main stock exchange and two government buildings was given a life sentence on Monday.

Zakaria Amara, 24, pleaded guilty in October. He acknowledged being a leader of the so-called Toronto 18 plot to set off bombs outside Toronto's Stock Exchange, a building housing Canada's spy agency and a military base. The goal was to scare Canada into removing its troops from Afghanistan.

Amara, a Jordanian-born Canadian citizen, received Canada's first life sentence for a terrorism offense.

The 2006 arrests of Amara and 17 others made international headlines and heightened fears in a country where many people thought they were relatively immune from terrorist strikes.

Judge Bruce Durno said Monday that the attack would have been the most horrific crime in Canada's history if the plot been successful.

"What this case revealed was spine-chilling," Durno said. "The potential for loss of life existed on a scale never before

seen in Canada."

"Zakaria Amara did not just commit a criminal offense. He committed a terrorist offense that would have had catastrophic and fatal consequences," Durno added. "He did not do it as a foot soldier, he did so as the leader."

Amara had his head down, staring at the floor during his sentencing. After the judge read his sentencing Amara asked to address the judge and said, "I just want to reassure you that the promises I made (to rehabilitate), I'll do my best."

Before he left the courtroom, he blew a kiss to his family.

The prosecution sought life imprisonment, while Amara's defense asked for a sentence of between 18 and 20 years.

The life sentence is the stiffest penalty yet imposed under Canadian anti-terrorism laws, but Durno said Amara will be eligible to apply for parole after serving six years and three months in prison — around the time of his 30th birthday. Durno said he didn't want to permanently decide Amara's fate.

However, defense lawyer Michael Lacy said the parole board isn't likely to grant Amara parole after six years

and three months.

"While he may be eligible for parole in six and a half years that doesn't mean he will be paroled," Lacy said.

Lacy said they were disappointed with the sentence in light of Amara's "genuine expressions of remorse and in light of his denunciation of the terrorist activity." He said they haven't decided whether to appeal.

Royal Canadian Mounted Police Superintendent Jamie Jagoe said the case illustrates that Canada is not immune to terrorism.

Wesley Wark, a University of Toronto professor and national security expert, said the unprecedented life sentence is significant, and he doubts Amara will be granted parole after six years.

"Yes it may look disarmingly soft that someone given a life sentence could be paroled in six years, but on the other hand the judgment on parole is discretionary, it's not automatic," Wark said.

Prosecutors said Amara planned to rent U-Haul trucks, pack them with explosives and detonate them via remote control toward the end of 2006. Police found he used a public library computer to conduct searches on bomb-making

and the chemicals needed for explosives. A search of his home also turned up a bomb-making manual, circuit boards, and a device that could trigger an explosion via a cell phone. Through a police agent, Amara tried to buy what he believed was three tons of ammonium nitrate — three times what was used in the 1995 Oklahoma City bombing that killed 168 people.

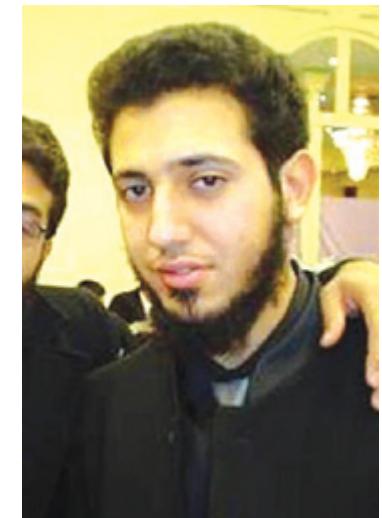
His personal computer also had recordings of al-Qaida leader Osama bin Laden and other jihad materials.

The case was developed after the suspects were followed, wiretapped as well as infiltrated by two paid police informants. One was paid more than US\$4 million.

Amara apologized in an open letter to Canadians at his sentencing hearing on Thursday, saying he deserved nothing but Canadians' contempt.

Amara was born in Jordan and baptized as an Orthodox Christian before he converted to Islam at age 10. His family lived Cyprus, Saudi Arabia and Jordan before they moved to Canada in 1997.

Amara, who is married and has a four-year old daughter, worked at a gas station at the time of his arrest, when he was 20. He was a first-year



Zakaria Amara is seen in this undated photo

Reuters Photo

electronics student at a local college.

Durno also sentenced one of Amara's co-conspirators, Saad Gaya, 22, on Monday to 12 years in prison, minus seven-and-a-half years credit for pretrial custody. The judge called Gaya a "helper" in the plot.

Since the arrest of the Toronto 18, four have now pleaded guilty and one was convicted after a trial.

Charges were stayed or dropped against seven people and six men still face trial. One man's trial began last week and five others face a trial in March.

Durno said the plot posed a real threat.

"It was not a group of amateurs whose efforts were inevitably doomed to failure," Durno said. □



"Glee" creator Ryan Murphy (C) and the cast celebrate backstage with their award after winning for best television series-comedy or musical at the 67th annual Golden Globe Awards in Beverly Hills, California January 17, 2010.

REUTERS/Lucy Nicholson

Golden Globes ratings up, Gervais reviews down

By Alex Dobuzinskis

LOS ANGELES (Reuters) – NBC saw its telecast of the Golden Globe Awards draw nearly 17 million viewers on Sunday, a 14 percent jump from 2009 and a victory for the troubled network, despite a poorly reviewed performance by host Ricky Gervais. The three-hour film and television awards show was No. 1 during its 8 p.m.-11 p.m. Sunday night time slot for NBC, which is in last place in ratings among the four major U.S. networks. NBC said on Monday that early figures indicate the telecast drew 16.9 million U.S. viewers compared to 14.9 million last year.

The Golden Globes, organized by the Hollywood Foreign Press Association, also saw a 10-percent ratings increase in the 18- to 49-year-old age group, which is coveted by advertisers because of its spending power.

Gervais, an edgy British comedian best known as co-creator of television's "The Office," generated excitement when he was named host of the Golden Globes in October. His off-the-cuff humor was seen as a good fit for the Golden Globes audience. But he received mixed reviews, with some critics saying his ribald jokes were ill-timed in the aftermath of last week's devastating earthquake in Haiti.

At one point, Gervais joked that inhabitants of the "Third World" feel better when they glimpse a Hollywood star, and that a poor Asian child is prone to think "Mummy!" after seeing a picture of actress Angelina Jolie, who has adopted children from Cambodia, Ethiopia and Vietnam. □

King Cameron redux? 'Avatar' aims for Oscar glory

By DAVID GERMAIN,
AP Movie Writer

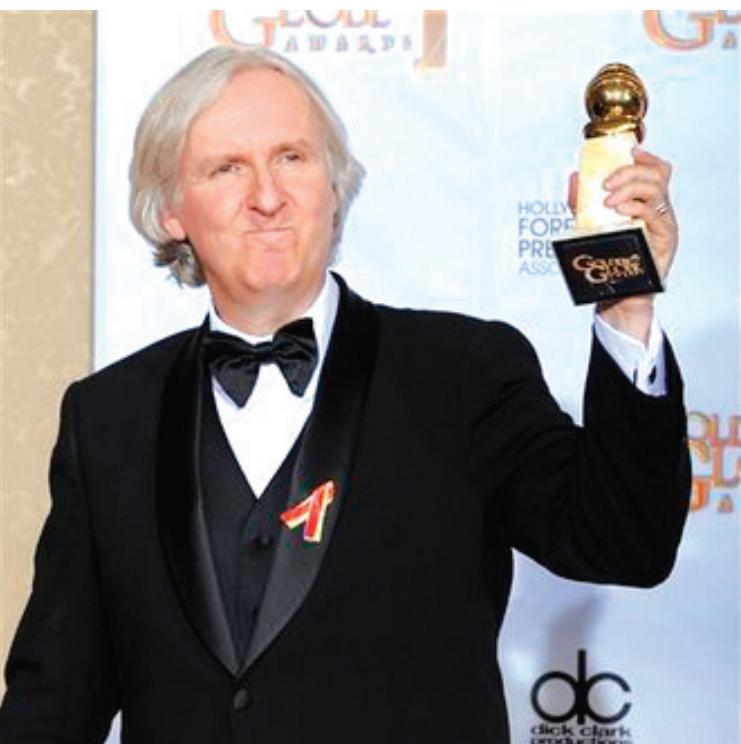
BEVERLY HILLS, Calif. – James Cameron may get to proclaim himself king of the distant moon Pandora at the Academy Awards.

Cameron — who borrowed Leonardo DiCaprio's line from "Titanic" and declared himself "king of the world" when that film sailed to Oscar glory 12 years ago — positioned himself for a repeat with his Golden Globe wins Sunday for the sci-fi blockbuster "Avatar."

The tale of big, blue aliens in conflict with rapacious humans on Pandora earned the Globes for best drama and director, prizes that also preceded the Oscar run of "Titanic." "This is a trip," said Cameron, recalling that as "Titanic" was becoming a box-office and Oscar juggernaut, he had thought to himself, "enjoy this ride, it ain't never going to happen again."

Yet "Avatar" has soared to a worldwide box office of \$1.6 billion, second only to "Titanic" at \$1.8 billion, and could end up surpassing his 1997 smash about the doomed luxury liner.

A key difference for Cameron's success this awards season is that he's doing it with a space fantasy, the sort of far-out tale that usually goes overlooked except for visual effects and other technical honors during Hollywood's prestige period.



Director James Cameron poses with the award for best motion picture drama for

(AP Photo/Mark J. Terrill)

Child tale "Julie & Julia." Supporting honors were presented to Mo'Nique for the Harlem drama "Precious: Based on the Novel 'Push' By Sapphire" and Christoph Waltz for the World War II saga "Inglourious Basterds." Like "Avatar," "Titanic" was a visual marvel, but it was an epic period drama, too, the kind of movie awards voters have embraced since the early days of the Oscars.

Peter Jackson achieved rare awards acceptance for fantasy adventures with his "Lord of the Rings" trilogy, though those films had a long and distinguished literary pedigree in the works of J.R.R. Tolkien.

Cameron made everything up himself for "Avatar," a 22nd century story of interspecies romance set on Pandora, where intrusive humans are mining a priceless energy source, steam-rolling over the world's natives to do it.

Pandora's inhabitants, the 10-foot, blue-skinned Na'vi, fight back with help from a paralyzed human (Sam Worthington), whose mind is transferred to an "avatar" resembling the natives. In something of a "Dances With Avatars" story, he finds a mentor and romantic interest in a fierce Na'vi princess (Zoe Saldana). □



Haitian-born musician Wyclef Jean is overcome with emotion while discussing his recent visit to earthquake-stricken Haiti and how his organization, Yele Haiti, is helping with relief efforts, Monday, Jan. 18, 2010, in New York.

(AP Photo/Diane Bondareff)

Wyclef Jean calls for evacuating Haiti's capital

NEW YORK – Haitian-born musician Wyclef Jean is calling for an evacuation of his homeland's earthquake-ravaged capital and asking for international aid to help set up tent cities nearby.

The Grammy Award-winning artist called for action during a news conference Monday in New York. He envisions temporary settlements housing 100,000 people each outside Port-au-Prince.

Jean is one of Haiti's most famous sons and has been a prominent voice in relief efforts since Tuesday's earthquake. He has raised more than \$2 million through his charity, The Wyclef Jean Foundation Inc. It is also known as Yele Haiti. But he has also faced questions about its accounting practices. He defended it Monday as a young organization that had made mistakes but has also been effective. □

BUSINESS

Aruba TODAY

Tyco buys Brink's Home Security in \$2B deal

NEW YORK – Diversified manufacturer Tyco International Ltd. says it has acquired home security provider Brink's Home Security Holdings Inc. in a cash-and-stock deal worth \$2 billion.

Tyco is paying \$42.50 per share for the Irving, Texas-based company. That represents a premium of more than 35 percent over Brink's stock, which closed Monday at \$31.42.

Tyco, which is headquartered in Schaffhausen, Switzerland, says it will combine Brink's, which operates as Broadview Security, with its own ADT security business. The deal has been unanimously approved by board members at both companies.

Tyco raised its first-quarter earnings forecast following the announcement. The company is scheduled to report first-quarter results on Jan. 28. □

American Airlines raises checked bag fees

FORT WORTH, Texas – American Airlines said Monday it is raising its fees on checked bags for passengers buying tickets starting Feb. 1.

The company said it is raising the charge for the first checked bag to \$25 from \$20 on flights in the U.S., Puerto Rico and U.S. Virgin Islands. The fees apply to passengers on the company's American Airlines, American Eagle and American Connection flights.

A second checked bag will cost \$35, up from \$30.

American Airlines last hiked its checked bag fees in July, when the price of the first bag rose \$5 to \$20 and the price of the second bag rose the same amount to \$25.

Select passengers, including first- and business-class travelers and members of the armed services, will remain exempt from checked bag fees.

Airlines began instituting checked bag fees in 2008 to help offset soaring fuel costs. They have largely kept the fees in place, even though prices have fallen.

American Airlines said about 25 percent of domestic customers pay checked bag fees. □

Swiss Re gets \$1.27B in Warren Buffett deal

By ELIANE ENGELER,
Associated Press Writer

GENEVA – Swiss Reinsurance Co. said Monday it transferred part of its U.S. life insurance business to American investor Warren Buffett's Berkshire Hathaway Inc. for 1.3 billion Swiss francs (\$1.27 billion) to free up capital and invest it more profitably.

The deal with Buffett's company, which already has a stake in Swiss Re, takes effect retroactively on Oct. 1, 2009. It has freed up 300 million francs (\$292 million) in capital, Swiss Re said. □

European stocks rise amid merger speculation

By PAN PYLAS,
AP Business Writer

LONDON – European stock markets rose Monday as speculation of a pickup in corporate dealmaking kept investors interested on a day Wall Street was closed for the Martin Luther King public holiday and Greece's budgetary woes continued to weigh on the euro.

The FTSE 100 index of leading British shares closed up 39.02 points, or 0.7 percent, at 5,494.39, while Germany's DAX rose 42.58 points, or 0.7 percent, at 5,918.55. The CAC-40 in France ended 23.08 points, or 0.6 percent, higher at 3,977.46.

A lot of the interest in Europe centered on Britain's International Power PLC and Gaz de France SA and whether weekend speculation that they were looking at some sort of tie-up would materialize.

However, International Power's statement that merger talks had ended saw a massive reverse in the company's fortunes and a share price that had been 8 percent higher in the day ended over 3 percent lower — making it the biggest faller on the FTSE 100.

British candy maker Cadbury PLC also remained in the spotlight amid speculation that its suitor Kraft Foods Inc. was preparing to sweeten its offer before a Tuesday deadline. Cadbury ended around 1.5 percent higher but investors remain skeptical that the current stand-off between the two companies can be ended. "Some traders seem to feel that this has dragged on long enough, making any sort of deal unlikely," said David Jones, chief market strategist at IG Index.

Even though talks between International Power and Gaz de France failed to yield anything, analysts said there are mounting expectations that the amount of mergers



A man walks by a stock board outside a securities firm in Tokyo, Japan, Monday, Jan. 18, 2010. The benchmark Nikkei 225 stock average fell 1.8 percent to close at 10,781.03 in the morning session.

(AP Photo/Junji Kurokawa)

and acquisitions taking place will increase over the coming months as the global economy recovers from recession. One corollary of increased confidence is an increase in mergers and acquisitions.

When Wall Street returns on Tuesday, the focus will turn towards the next batch of fourth quarter corporate earnings — so far, earnings have been fairly mixed, with upside surprises from the likes of Intel Corp. offset by disappointments elsewhere, most notably Alcoa Inc.

Banks will be in the spotlight especially after U.S. stocks fell 1 percent on Friday — the Dow Jones industrial average suffered its worst day of the year so far — as JP Morgan Chase & Co. offered a cautious earnings guidance even though it reported a fairly strong set of results.

"We get Citigroup tomorrow which has less of the good bits of banking and more of the bad bits," said Kit Juckes, chief economist at ECU Group.

A meeting of the 16 finance ministers of the countries that use the euro in Brussels later will be closely monitored in the currency markets as the main topic of debate will be the shaky state of Greece's public finances.

Concern about Greece's debts

has been one of the reasons why the euro has floundered over the last month or so from 16-month highs above \$1.50. Earlier it hit a ten-day low of \$1.4336 before recovering slightly to \$1.4380.

Greece's problems have fueled concerns that the country may eventually have to be bailed out by its partners in the eurozone. Some observers are even speculating about a possible Greek exit from the single currency zone.

"With rising concerns about the workability of the Greek government's stability and growth plan, the firm rejection from within the eurozone of the idea of a bailout, the rapidly rising cost of default insurance on Greek sovereign debt and concerns over deficits elsewhere in the region, the problems for the single currency are mounting rapidly," said Neil Mellor, a currency strategist at Bank of New York Mellon.

"Given that these come at a time when the euro is trading significantly above its long term averages against a wide range of currencies — 23 percent against the dollar — after years of being used as the prime vehicle for reserve diversification, there is plenty of space for it to fall," he added. □

SPORTS

Aruba TODAY



Phelps, Hoff win at Long Beach GP

LONG BEACH, California (AP) — American Olympic Olympic gold medalist Michael Phelps competes in a preliminary heat of the men's 400-yard individual medley at USA Swimming's Southern California Grand Prix in Long Beach, Calif., Sunday, Jan. 17, 2010.

Associated Press

stars Michael Phelps and Katie Hoff won 400-yard individual medleys on Sunday at the Long Beach Grand Prix.

Phelps finished in 3 minutes, 38.42 seconds, about a second behind his prelim time but well ahead of second-place finisher Hidemasa Sano, who touched in 3:39.63. Todd Patrick was third in 3:45.54 at the Belmont Plaza Olympic Pool.

Hoff, who has a silver and bronze from the Olympics, won her race in 4:04.39 to break Kaitlin Sandeno's meet record of 4:05.86 set in 2008.

Ariana Kukors was second in 4:06.05, and Felicia Lee was third in 4:12.53. Earlier in the night, Hoff finished second to Dana Vollmer in the 200-yard freestyle, while Matt Grevers won the men's 200-yard free. □

NHL Roundup

DiPietro, Moulson lead Islanders past Devils 4-0

UNIONDALE, New York (AP) — Rick DiPietro made 20 saves for his first shutout in almost two years and Matt Moulson scored twice to lead the New York Islanders to a 4-0 win over the New Jersey Devils in the NHL on Monday.

The resurgent Islanders have four straight wins, matching a season high. New York has won six of seven overall and will head to Pittsburgh to face the defending Stanley Cup champions on Tuesday.

Mark Streit and Josh Bailey also had goals for the Islanders, who chased NHL career wins leader Martin Brodeur before the start of the third period.

Senators 5, Bruins 1

At Boston, Daniel Alfredsson scored three goals in his second game after missing 11 with a shoulder injury to lead Ottawa past struggling Boston.

Mike Fisher had three assists and Filip Kuba, who returned from a four-game injury layoff, assisted on two of Alfredsson's goals as the Senators won their third straight game after losing five in a row.

Thomas was replaced after Alfredsson's second goal at 9:56 of the second period made it 3-0 on just nine shots by Ottawa.

Alfredsson completed his ninth career hat trick, including two in the playoffs, about three minutes later on a power play against goalie Tuukka Rask.

Alex Kovalev and Jonathan Cheechoo also scored for the Senators. Daniel Paille ruined Brian Elliott's shutout bid at 4:23 of the third. □



New York Islanders goalie Rick DiPietro (39) stops a shot as New Jersey Devils' Brian Rolston (12) tries to tip it in during the second period of an NHL hockey game at Nassau Coliseum in Uniondale, N.Y., Monday, Jan. 18, 2010.

Associated Press

Quake causes Berto to withdraw from fight

LAS VEGAS (AP) — Andre Berto withdrew Monday from his Jan. 30 fight with Shane Mosley, saying the strain of

Andre Berto, pictured in 2009, pulled out of next week's World Boxing Council welterweight title fight with Shane Mosley, saying the pain of dealing with the horrific earthquake has taken too big a toll on him emotionally.

(AFP/Getty Images/File/Al Bello)

dealing with the earthquake that struck Haiti left him unable to fight.

Berto, who represented Haiti in the Athens Olympics, said he could not train properly for what was to be the biggest fight of his career.

"As a result of this disaster, I am mentally and physically exhausted and therefore I have no choice but to withdraw from my bout," Berto said in a statement.

The move could open up a much

bigger fight matching Mosley against Floyd Mayweather Jr. Promoter Richard Schaefer said Monday he was already working on trying to make a Mosley-Mayweather match, and said both boxers were interested in the bout.

"I'm going to do whatever I can to pull it off," Schaefer said. "I'm cautiously optimistic we can put something together. It would be a great fight, a long anticipated fight."

Continued on Page 14



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Texas No. 1 in AP poll for second straight week

**By JIM O'CONNELL
 AP Basketball Writer**

Texas survived its first week as the No. 1 team in The Associated Press college basketball poll. The second won't be any easier.

The Longhorns (17-0) moved into the top spot for the first time in school history last week and they stayed there Monday, receiving 57 first-place votes from the 65-member national media panel. They won 90-83 at Iowa State in their first game in the top spot and then beat Texas A&M 72-67 in overtime in their first home game as a No. 1 team.

Texas headed to No. 10 Kansas State on Monday night, then plays at Connecticut on Saturday.

Kentucky (18-0), which was No. 1 on eight ballots, Kansas, Villanova and Syracuse remained second through fifth. Michigan State, Duke and Tennessee all moved up one place to sixth through eighth, respectively.

Pittsburgh, which moved into the Top 25 for the first time this season just two weeks ago and has started 5-0 in the Big East, jumped from 16th to ninth. Kansas State was 10th, its first appearance in the top 10 since being ninth in the final poll of the 1972-73 season. West Virginia was 11th, followed by Georgetown, Purdue, BYU, Gonzaga, Temple, Clemson, Wisconsin, Georgia Tech and Northern Iowa, which

is ranked for the second time in school history.

The last five were Ohio State, Mississippi, Mississippi State, North Carolina and Baylor. Ohio State and Mississippi State both returned to poll after being ranked earlier in the season.

The Tar Heels (12-6), who lost two games last week and three of four, dropped from 12th to No. 24, their first time below 13th in the poll since February 2006.

Northern Iowa (16-1) moved in on a 15-game winning streak that began following a loss to DePaul in the opening round of the Paradise Jam. The Panthers were ranked for three weeks in January and February 2006.

Ohio State (13-5) was out of the poll the last two weeks but returned following victories over Purdue and Wisconsin. The Buckeyes have won three of four since the return of Evan Turner, who missed six games after breaking bones in his back

while dunking. They split the games he missed, so all but one of their losses have come when Turner was out. Mississippi State (15-3) was 18th in the preseason Top 25 but was gone quickly following a season-opening loss to Rider. The Bulldogs have won 12 of their last 13 games, including their first three Southeastern Conference games.

UConn (11-6) dropped out from 15th following losses last week to Pittsburgh and



Texas coach Rick Barnes shouts instructions toward a player during second half action in their 72-67 NCAA college basketball victory in overtime against Texas A&M Saturday, Jan. 16, 2010, in Austin, Texas.

Associated Press

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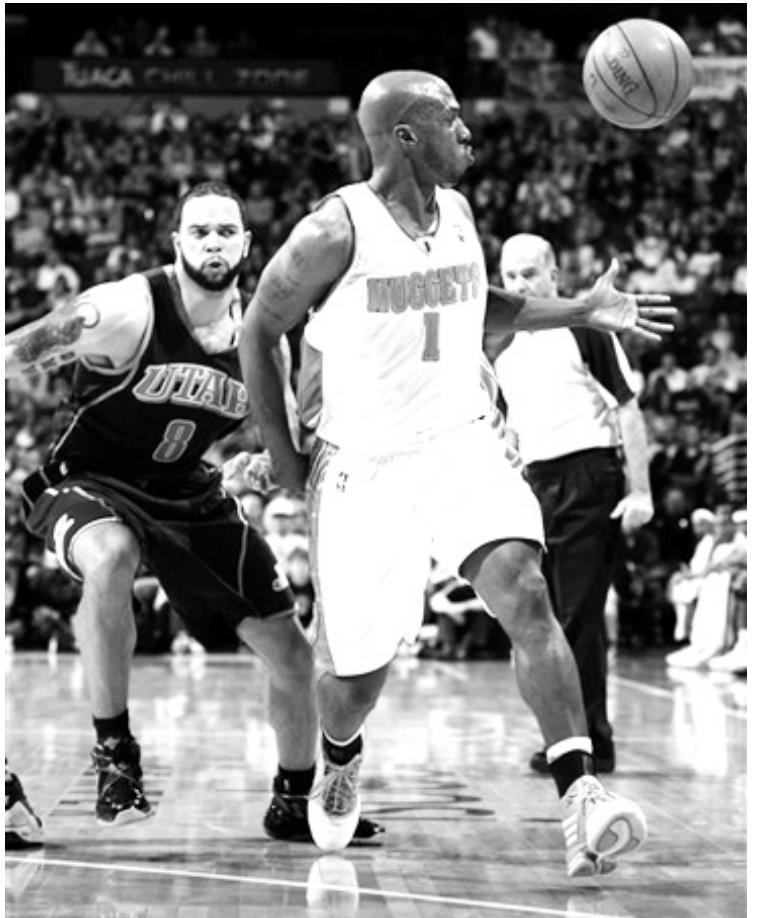
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Denver Nuggets guard Chauncey Billups, right, loses control of the ball as Utah Jazz guard Deron Williams chases the play in the first quarter of an NBA basketball game in Denver on Sunday, Jan. 17, 2010.

The Associated Press

DENVER (AP) — Carmelo Anthony scored 37 points and Chauncey Billups added 29 in the Denver Nuggets' 119-112 win over Utah that snapped the Jazz' four-game winning streak Sunday.

Associated Press

Ty Lawson returned to Denver's rotation after missing four games with a sprained ankle and helped steady a sometimes erratic offense, scoring 11 points with

NBA Roundup

'Melo, Billups lead Nuggets past Jazz; Raptors top Mavs

an assist.

Nene added 18 points for the Nuggets, who improved to 3-0 against Utah and won the season series. That could prove crucial for playoff seeding should these teams end up with the same record in the tight Western Conference. Point guard Deron Williams (sprained wrist) and

forward Andrei Kirilenko (hyperextended knee) were both in Utah's starting lineup despite playing the night before in a 112-95 win over Milwaukee in Salt Lake City. Williams led the Jazz with 23 points but Kirilenko scored just 7.

Raptors 110, Mavericks 88
At Toronto, Chris Bosh had

defend his WBC welterweight title against Mosley in a fight on HBO at the Mandalay Bay resort. Mosley, who has held titles in three different weight classes, was to be his most significant opponent yet.

Berto, whose parents are from Haiti and who has many relatives on the island, had been in training in Florida and was scheduled to arrive in Las Vegas on Wednesday. But he said he could not go forward, despite the fight being "an opportunity I have dreamt of since childhood."

BERTO FIGHT

Continued from Page 12

Mayweather has been looking for an opponent ever since his March 13 megafight with Manny Pacquiao of the Philippines collapsed amid Mayweather's demand for blood testing for performance enhancing drugs.

"Mayweather is interested and so, of course, is Shane," Schaefer said. "Now it's a matter of negotiating the right deal structure that makes everyone happy."

The undefeated Berto was to

23 points and 13 rebounds, and Andrea Bargnani scored 22 as Toronto won its seventh in eight home games to reach the midpoint of its season at 21-20. Jose Calderon had 15 points and Jarrett Jack scored 11 as the Raptors took the lead with a huge second quarter and never trailed again, leading by as many as 26. □

"I lost several family members to the earthquake and after two days without word, was relieved to learn that my sister, Naomi and her daughter, Jessica survived, but were left homeless," Berto said. "I have seen the pain in my parents' eyes as they attempt to understand what has happened to our homeland and recognize a place they once called home."

Berto (25-0, 19 KOs) was born in Miami but fought for Haiti in the 2004 Olympics after narrowly missing the U.S. team. He has been involved in charity and relief efforts in his parents' homeland for several years.

Berto said he appreciated the support he's gotten since the earthquake struck and hoped that the people of Haiti would be kept in everyone's thoughts and prayers as work begins to rebuild the country.

"The rebuilding of Haiti is not something that will happen overnight, but I am fully dedicated to helping the Haitian people recover from this catastrophic event," he said.

Berto's withdrawal from the fight could mean a different opportunity for Mosley, who hasn't fought since stopping Antonio Margarito a year ago. Floyd Mayweather Jr. is still searching for an opponent for his next fight, and the 38-year-old Mosley would potentially be a better test than some of the names that have surfaced lately. Both fighters are represented by Golden Boy Promotions, which would presumably make the fight easier to make. □

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Australian Open: Clijsters, Henin brighten up dreary day

DENNIS PASSA

AP Sports Writer

MELBOURNE, Australia (AP) — With one former women's No. 1 making an early exit and the current one not playing until Tuesday, it was just as well that Kim Clijsters and Justine Henin came back to give the Australian Open some first-day luster on a rainy, dreary day at Melbourne Park.

Former top-ranked Maria Sharapova was a surprise 7-6 (4), 3-6, 6-4 loser Monday to fellow Russian Maria Kirilenko.

U.S. Open champion Clijsters, also a former No. 1 and making a return to the Australian Open in her sixth tournament back from retirement, easily won her first-round match 6-0, 6-4 over Canadian qualifier Valerie Tetreault.

Later Monday, another former No. 1 also on the comeback trail, seven-time Grand Slam singles winner Justine Henin, advanced with a 6-4, 6-3 win over fellow Belgian Kirsten Flipkens. Henin lost to Clijsters in the Brisbane International final 10 days ago in her return to the tour.

Second-seeded Rafael Nadal, the defending men's champion, beat Australia's Peter Luczak 7-6 (0), 6-1, 6-4.

Nadal won his first Grand Slam singles title on hard courts — to go with his four at the French Open and his one Wimbledon title — when he beat Roger Federer in last year's final at Melbourne

Park.

The Spanish left-hander didn't find his rhythm until the latter part of the first set against Luczak, dominating the tiebreaker and much of the remainder of the match.

"I'm always happy to win the first round of a Grand Slam," Nadal said. "Peter was playing really well in the first set but he made three errors in the tiebreak that helped me. I knew it was going to be a tough match."

Steady rain first delayed the start of play on outside courts, then forced several suspensions and more than a dozen postponements. Officials finally called off play at 10 p.m. on outside courts when the rain returned, forcing the matches to be concluded Tuesday.

It was Sharapova's earliest exit from a Grand Slam since the 2003 French Open, and comes after she lost in the second round at last year's U.S. Open.

Top-seeded Serena Williams starts her title defense Tuesday against Urszula Radwanska of Poland.

Clijsters, who won the U.S. Open in September in only her third tournament back from time off to get married and have a baby, still feels the nerves that come with playing in a Grand Slam.

"I have the experience from the past, but I haven't been here for so long," Clijsters said. "So I think that's why it all feels new again. So, yeah,

the butterflies are there ..."

There were no nerves — "just a bad day" — for Sharapova, who was making her first appearance on Rod Laver Arena since winning the 2008 trophy. She missed the Australian Open last year as part of a 10-month layoff due to shoulder surgery, but said her shoulder did not bother her Monday.

"I could be disappointed or I could just take it as it is and just go back on the court and just keep working," Sharapova said.

"I choose option two. A bad day's not going to stop me from doing what I love. I'll be back here on a Saturday of the second week, so you watch." Sharapova rallied from 5-2 down in the deciding set, holding serve and then breaking Kirilenko to stay in the match. She dropped her own serve after giving Kirilenko double match point.

"It's never easy. I'm good friends with Maria," Kirilenko said, but "I tried my best to win today — I came here quite confident."

Henin was mostly untroubled



Maria Sharapova, left, of Russia reacts as she plays Russia's Maria Kirilenko during their Women's singles first round match at the Australian Open tennis championship in Melbourne, Australia, Monday Jan. 18, 2010.

Associated Press

in beating Flipkens, getting game, then holding to take the set. □

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FIVE QUESTIONS WITH ...ADAM STEINFELD, magician-comedian, star of the Magic Live!® theater-of-illusions show



BY REBECCA SWAIN
VADNIE

What have you been working on recently?

We launched our new version of Magic Live!® theater-of-illusions show at the Westin-aruba a few weeks ago, we turned a theater that's been closed for 2 years into a fun & exciting show within 10 days, now that's Magic!....the Magic Live!® show has been well received by tourists and magic leaders alike, every seat is clear sight-line to the stage, it only holds 125 seats, one of the reasons we're open everyday, the demand, has been very encouraging. I slice the beautiful girl-in-half, float her to the top of the theater, and then later in the show, float an audience in-the-air, the magic-comedy-illusion show will change every few weeks, I brought with me tons of new never-before-

seen illusions, so every live onstage performance is unique and different, expect lots of surprises.

When did you first realize you wanted to be a magician? In elementary school, in 2nd grade, I fooled my teacher Mrs. Hooligan, in much frustration and consternation on her part, I performed a show & tell effect; using a bell that rang at any time, only I the magician could make it ring, she tried and tired, but couldn't make it work. I

also performed magic & ventriloquism at birthday parties as a youngster, I always considered it a hobby, that is until I won first place in the Florida state magic convention contest. at age ten, quite an accomplishment for a kid-magician at the time, later on, studying to be a film-maker at the University of Miami, I put myself through college,

performing magic shows at events and comedy clubs, and cruiseships around the world, from Barcelona to San Juan.... if you turn your passion into your living, you can never go wrong.

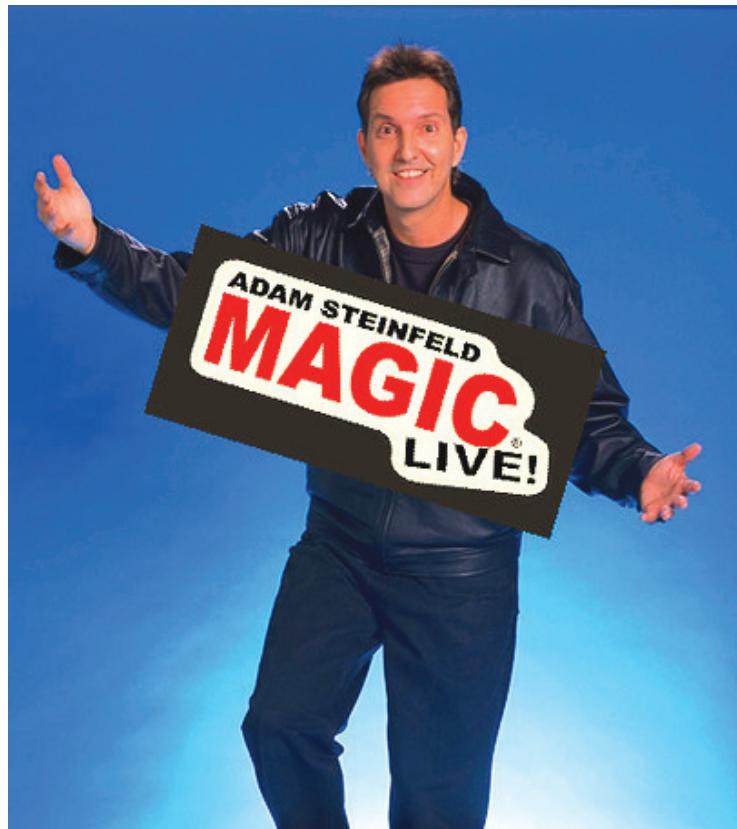
How is your show different than say; David Copperfield, Lance Burton or Amazing Jonathan?

I present "magic" mixed with nonstop laughter, and world-class stage illusions, I don't take myself so seriously on stage, and I don't have a set script, most is improvised, lets just say controlled ciaos, involving interactive audience fun...plus the Magic Live!® upscale theater at the Westin only seats 125, every seat is perfect sightlines to the stage, it's more of a private personal show, than watching it from a far in a large auditorium stage, than a typical magic show.

What is your greatest career achievement?

On April 1st, in 1988 (April Fools Day), I set a guinness world record, in magic, by performing 102 magic tricks in a little more than 3 minutes, it was filmed for network television, and aired in 52 countries around the world including the Australian TV show, Just for the Record, and aired as a major news story throughout the USA, it earned me the title of; the World's Most Versatile Magician, the event was sponsored by Timex, and after that bookings started to pour in.

What is this I hear about your new conspiracy novel; Houdini Lives! ? I spent two years collaborating over the internet with New England mystery writer, Al Blanchard on my story; Houdini Lives!, the novel is now available online and at www.HoudiniLives.com, it's historical fiction, set 40 years past Houdini's death in 1926, the world's greatest magician, Houdini is living as his father's profession in Miami Beach, in 1966, and he knows



other celebrities of that time period from Jackie Gleason to Sinatra to Larry King, I believe this story will one day be turned into a feature film.

How do you spend your time, when you're not performing? Aruba is without a doubt the most picturesque island of all

the Caribbean, as a filmmaker, I like to spend my time shooting short stories, and interviews of the people of Aruba, who are always fascinating, you can see a few shorts on www.Aruba123.com, one is a short documentary titled; Aruba, almost heaven. I plan to shoot more in the future. □



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LOCAL

Aruba TODAY



On Top Of The News

Email: news@arubatoday.com

Tuesday, January 19, 2010

Caribbean Marketplace Attendance, Mood Portends Well For 2010 CHTA Urges 'Unity For Action'

Suggests \$10 Tax on Airline/Cruise Tickets to Fund Both Local and Regional Marketing

SAN JUAN – Both the attendance and mood of delegates at Caribbean Marketplace 2010 held at the Puerto Rico Convention Center in San Juan this week were very upbeat indicating that 2010 will be the beginning of a recovery in tourism for the region. There were 1,311 delegates, just 210 or 13.8 percent off of the recent high of 1521 attendees in 2009. There were also a record number of 19 sponsors plus two additional supporters for the CHTA Board Meetings.

"The attendance at Caribbean Marketplace held better than most other tourism industry gatherings over the past year, many of which have been down by as much as 40 percent," said Enrique De Marchena Kaluche, president of the Caribbean Hotel & Tourism Association (CHTA), host of Caribbean Marketplace 2010 along with co-hosts Puerto Rico Tourism Company, Puerto Rico Hotel and Tourism Association, Puerto Rico Convention Bureau, MasterCard and Virgin Holidays.

"The general mood of the hoteliers, tour operators, wholesalers and tourist office officials that I spoke with indicated that the economy is shifting back into a higher gear than experienced in the past 18 months," added De Marchena.

At the same time, De Marchena announced that CHTA endorses and supports the renovated efforts of unity among Caribbean governments now being proposed by CTO tourism ministers. The ministers meeting took place in San Juan just prior to the beginning of Caribbean



Marketplace 2010.

However, De Marchena added: "While CHTA supports this proposed unity, we strongly assert that it must be 'unity for action' in order to have any meaning whatsoever.

"The Caribbean region has been facing an economic crisis as are all other regions of the world and the tourism sector has been hit by this global economic downturn, in particular, because the Caribbean economies are the most dependent on tourism, according to the World Travel & Tourism Council, and there is a trickle-down effect on the rest of the economy, including agricultural, telecommunication, transportation, commerce and banking sectors, among others.

"As tourism generates the

largest amount of revenue for the Caribbean nations, with visitor arrivals decreased the destinations' coffers have been reduced.

"As a result of this loss of revenues from tourism related industries, Governments have reduced budgets which has put pressure on the provision of social services among others including reduced tourism budgets.

"For the development of the tourism sector within

the Caribbean, and the preservation of the social and economic wellbeing of the people of the region, the most important thing right now is the development of a marketing fund for the region, as well as for each and every individual destination.

"The governments have so far not been able to agree on how the funds for a Caribbean marketing plan should be generated," noted De Marchena.

His remarks allude to a CARICOM Heads of Government agreement at the July 2007 tourism summit in Antigua on the implementation of a regional marketing program and sustainable funding for the program.

However, more than two years later, CARICOM has not yet agreed on a formula despite serious difficulties faced by the industry.

When CTO billed their members based on a formula of funding from internal resources agreed at a January 2009 meeting, only two countries submitted their payment, according to Alec Sanguinetti,

director general and CEO of CHTA.

"All governments are seriously challenged for money to support their own destination marketing programs. In addition, this money is

needed for airline guarantees for new and ongoing services which puts more demands on dwindling government resources," said Sanguinetti.

"While the governments of the Caribbean may have recognized the importance of tourism, the need for action now is critical for their economies," warned De Marchena, adding:

"CHTA strongly suggests that the CTO revisits the recommendation for a tax on airline and cruise passenger tickets to the Caribbean and additionally suggests that we use the precedent that has been set by the Travel Industry Association in the United States which recently instituted a \$10 ticket tax to fund its U.S. marketing and promotion efforts worldwide.

"We further suggest that a \$10 ticket tax on all airline tickets for incoming passengers could be effectively split to enable individual governments to use \$5 of each tax for its own destination marketing while allocating the other \$5 to a sustainable marketing fund for the region.

"Millions of dollars would result from such a ticket tax for each destination to supplement its marketing efforts as well as millions of dollars for a regional marketing campaign."

Continued on Page B11

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12 noon and from 1pm to 5pm. A charter includes: captain, mate, all fishing equipment, bait, sodas and bottled water. On a full day charter sandwiches and snacks are also included. You can call Herby directly at (297) 592 4040 or go to www.driftwoodaruba.com.

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Life's a Beach at the Juggling Fish



Palm Beach -- The Juggling Fish at Playa Linda Beach Resort is designed to stimulate your shopping instincts, as the beautiful store is hard to resist. What you'll find on the oceanfront boardwalk is absolutely gorgeous: hand picked gifts, souvenirs, beach and resort wear, it's all on display a few steps from the water.

The tastefully arranged store is

signature Boston-born Jodi Tobman, also the owner of the brand-new Lazy Lizard, in the South Beach Centre. You will find a great selection of kid gifts here.

In fact an entire inner section is dedicated to gifts with a tropical appeal for babies and toddlers, among them whimsical plush stuffed iguanas, parrots and seahorses. Moreover, a bonanza of



fridge magnets, hand-made silver jewelry, batik beach wraps, throws and hats also awaits you.

Gift hunters will be pleased with the array of scented candles and candleholders. The store offers convenient barefoot browsing possibilities and is located within a short walking distance from the Hyatt Regency and the Holiday Inn Sunspree Resort.

The Juggling Fish at Playa



Linda fits nicely into that resort's "Life's a Beach" philosophy. Open from 9 a.m. to 9 p.m. Monday through Saturday and on Sunday, when the rest of the island is at a standstill, the helpful staff at the Juggling Fish Playa Linda Beach Resort is eager to serve you with a smile from 9 a.m. till 6 p.m. Tel.: +297 586 4999. Email: orders@salamanderholdings.com



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Conversations with Julio E. Muñoz, Executive Director of the Inter-American Press Association



ORANJESTAD-On Thursday, January 18th, it was officially announced that the IAPA Mid-year Meeting would take place in Aruba from March 19 through 22. Present on the island for this was IAPA's Executive Director, Julio E Muñoz, who, since 1982 has been an employee of IAPA, which advocates freedom of the press in the western hemisphere and boasts over 1300 member publications.

A native of Chile, Dr. Muñoz assumed his position as IAPA Executive Director in 1994. He earned his doctorate in Mass Communications at the School of Journalism and Mass Communications, University of Minnesota in 1983, and his master's degree from University of the Pacific in Stockton, California. Along with numerous respected positions in journalism and his work with IAPA, Dr. Muñoz was a professor of journalism at the Catholic University of Chile in the city of Concepcion.

A number of the workshops scheduled for the upcoming conference address online journalism and the relationship between news media and E-commerce. When asked about the future of print newspapers, Dr. Muñoz replied, "At present, we have seen a decreasing of many papers in the U.S.; they are facing some difficult questions regarding

advertisers.

However, the good news is coming from the Latin America. We are seeing greatly increased circulation in countries such as Brazil over the past five years. Guatemala is also doing very well, as is Mexico. I would say that countries where there is a lot of controversy are seeing a marked increase in newspaper circulation. Venezuelan papers and those in Ecuador are also doing very well."

Dr. Muñoz pointed out the irony that a number of these nations are where governments are trying the hardest to suppress criticism and opposition in the media. It should be noted that popularity of print is also in nations where proportionally fewer members of the populace have personal computers and ready access to the Internet for their news and every day communications than the U.S.

"Today, there exists many possibilities to get information online; however, newspapers still enjoy the greatest credibility among the

populace," stated Dr. Muñoz. Anyone can anonymously post any misinformation on the net and the rumor will spread quickly; "Every country has what we call the "Record Paper," what the people consider a truly credible source for news. Credibility means different things; especially for independence. When a newspaper is affiliated with or belongs to the government, or supports the government, or received money from the government or political parties, people don't believe in them. But if the paper is very independent without political connections, people really believe in them."

"Building credibility is the most important thing for a paper," concluded Dr. Muñoz, "you can spend a lot of money on tools for marketing and increasing circulation, but you cannot convince the people if they don't believe in your paper."

Dr. Muñoz refers interested individuals to the IAPA website, www.sipiapa.org, where the organization has

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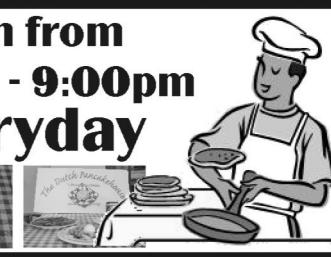
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posted their list of aspirations, finalized over a number of years and meetings. "This sites what is truly the mission of a newspaper; to offer balanced news. News is like a coin; you have one side and the other-if you only tell one side, it is not newsworthy, you must report both sides of the story. I recommend a book by Former IAPA President Jack Fuller, who was editor and publisher of the Chicago Tribune, called "News Values-Ideas for an Information Age." He ably outlines how to be balanced in news reporting."

Dr. Muñoz pointed out that most news sources that build credibility are usually critical of the government. "Right now, governments that do not respect the media, such

as Venezuela, Nicaragua and Ecuador...they keep pushing, they try to eliminate the voice of the "other side," and this is what we oppose. We campaign fro the free flow of information. The Declaration of Human rights, Article 19, mentions that "Everyone in the world has the right to receive information and to use it freely." In Cuba, for example, they don't have media, they have propaganda, because everything comes from the government...This is not "True Journalism," which is what IAPA is fighting for and is contained in our Mission Statement. This is what our annual conventions are about; the October General Assembly and the Mid-Year Meeting we are conducting in Aruba in March." □

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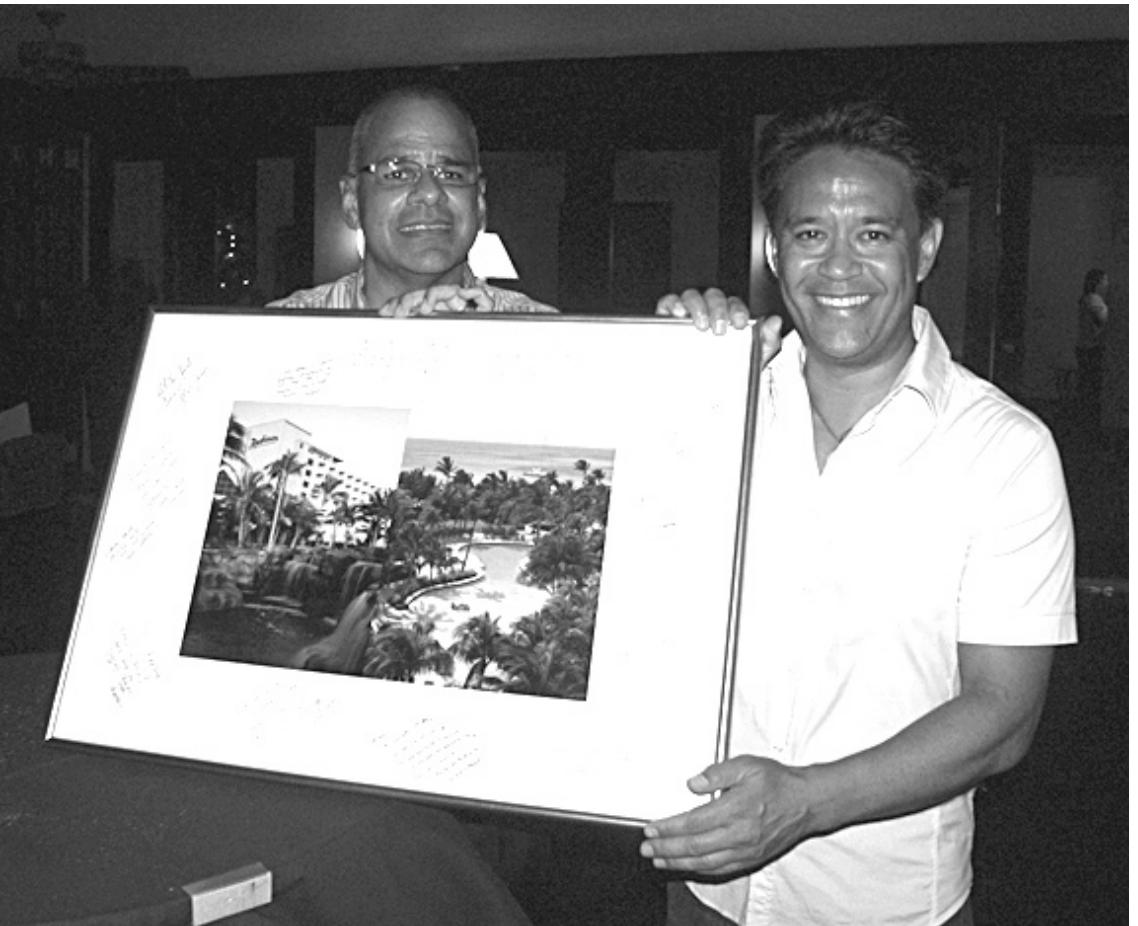


PALM BEACH — Larimar Spa, Radisson Aruba Resort Casino & Spa, bid its Director of Spa Services Bruce Cavan farewell. Having been on the island for over three years, Bruce is moving on to pursue his career in spa management in the US. While on the island, he worked tirelessly to promote Larimar Spa in the local and tourist markets and explore new treatments, to keep patrons coming for

more.

The Radisson Aruba Resort Casino & Spa initially invested \$5.2 million, in the 13,000-sq.ft., stand-alone oceanfront Larimar Spa. The one of a kind facility with beautifully designed treatment rooms, sauna & steam cabins, Vichy showers, relaxation gardens, plunge pools, dedicated areas for manicure, pedicure and hair care, and

Farewell to Bruce Cavan



a truly state of the art gym and fitness center, deserved a top professional, and Bruce Cavan fit that description perfectly. Subsequently, he was contracted to operate the facility and make it famous, a mission he successfully

achieved.

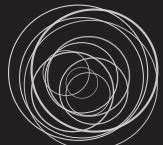
Pictured here Bruce's farewell gathering at the resort 9th floor penthouse suite, attended by all managers and departments heads who also signed the souvenir picture frame

designed to escort Bruce to his new destination.

While at the helm of Larimar Spa Bruce trained his second in command, Albert De La Cruz to take over the spa management. □

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Beach Tennis, which has conquered Aruba big-time, is hot. More than 200 regular players greatly enjoy the fast-paced, fun game. Young, old and in-between players, visitors and locals: everybody can play. And when you are tired, you can watch the action in the sand in lounge chairs, with a drink from the MooMba Beach Bar.

Two new courts are in the building stage, with lights being installed as we speak. This Wednesday, the soft sand will be raked and the boarding installed. The two courts are built by Rotech NV, Ecaiba NV, Unipa and MooMba Beach and Beach Tennis



Aruba. For more information, please call 592-6421/583-7074 or look up the Beach Tennis site www.arubabeachtennis.com.

Photos show RoTech's

Reynald, Daniel and Gino working their tails off and Tano and Dino doing the same, getting the two new Beach Tennis courts at MooMba Beach ready for action. □

MOOMBA - Aruba has a first: a Beach Tennis Club with four excellent courts, soft sand, boarding and lights. Capitalizing on the enormous enthusiasm of local



beach tennis players, who flock to MooMba Beach for their weekly competitions, the pick-up nights, the ladies' mornings and the exceptionally successful ranking tournaments, organizers Jochem Ros and Sjoerd de Vries are now in the process of getting their Beach Tennis club started. A reservations system with membership cards is taking care of regulated court time. During the day there are clinics, lessons by a pro and time to play for visitors who rent a racquet in the Beach Tennis store. In the evenings the courts are used for the weekly competition, which is held at all levels of play.



AHATA, its board of directors, staff and members, expresses its deepest sympathies with the passing of

Gary Jutz,

a distinguished former board member and the former GM of the Radisson Aruba.

Our profound condolences to his family, friends and colleagues.

HUMAN HINTS

How to Transform Your Moods

Humans are moody creatures. Our emotional swings are usually beyond our conscious control. With practice, we can learn to recognize our bad moods and in an effortless moment, to purposefully transform them in real-time. External stimuli from the physical world cause the body to release hormones that generate our emotions. We have been emotional slaves to our hormones until now. It is time we learn how to dictate to the body how we feel, regardless of the

physical stimulus we are subject to. Our conscious mind can make the body secrete empowering hormones just when we need them most.

First of all, be grateful for your emotions. All of them, good and bad. Human Emotion is one of the most powerful, desired Forces of Creation throughout all Realms of Energetic Expression. Don't take it for granted, and don't curse your gift of feeling. Embrace your emotions

and release them. That is growth.

It takes but an effortless instant to shift our emotions, but we usually make it as hard as possible. When it's hard, we feel like we earned something valuable. If life were easy, there would be no growth. People need challenge. If we don't have enough adversity, we will create it even if it's not necessary.

a bad mood, it feels both good and bad. As bad as it feels on one level, it is also invigorating. When we're in a bad mood, we feel alive. More importantly, we feel. Any feeling, even a bad mood, is a welcome respite from the monotonous daily life that forbids us from feeling anything.

Once you realize and admit to yourself that you're in a bad mood or depressed, embrace it for a moment.

How do we reverse our mood swings out in the world, when Life is having a field day with our emotions, tossing us around with every fickle whim? It is important to be able to release what you are feeling. When you release your emotional energy, you make room for new emotions. Most of us have a hard time letting go of who we are emotionally. We get used to being a certain way, and we don't want to let go of our bad emotional habits. It takes courage to let go of your self, even a part of yourself that you don't like.

The first step is to realize when your mood swings. When we suddenly fall into

the bad mood, it feels both good and bad. As bad as it feels on one level, it is also invigorating. When we're in a bad mood, we feel alive. More importantly, we feel. Any feeling, even a bad mood, is a welcome respite from the monotonous daily life that forbids us from feeling anything.

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The first step is to realize when your mood swings. When we suddenly fall into

Realize your moods, embrace them, release them, replace them. Repeat as necessary.

Until Tomorrow...

Go to www.HumanHints.com to sign up to receive this column in your email each day.

Quentin Danziger

Quentin has over 20 years experience balancing what we refer to as the Real World, with science and spirit. He has held positions of responsibility and authority, received a Bachelor of Science in Engineering Physics from Colorado School of Mines, and has also studied many avenues of alternative thought.

HumanHints is the culmination of his knowledge, experience and practice. These free daily emails detail concrete, real-world techniques to consciously create any future you choose, while in the throes of daily life created by outdated modes of thought.

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PG	OLD DOGS	daily: matinee: 12:15	4:15 2:15	6:15 late show:	8:15 10:15
G	THE PRINCESS AND THE FROG	daily: matinee: 12:45	5:15 3:00	late show:	
R	NINJA ASSASSIN	daily: matinee:	8:00 late show:	10:15 11:30	
PG-13	AVATAR 3D	daily: matinee: 1:15	4:30 late show:	7:45 11:00	
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PG-13	SHERLOCK HOLMES	daily: matinee:	5:30 2:30	8:30 late show:	11:30
PG	ALVIN AND THE CHIPMUNKS "THE SQUEAKQUEL"	daily: matinee: 12:00	4:00 2:00	6:00 late show:	
G	THE PRINCESS AND THE FROG	daily: matinee: 12:00	4:30 2:15	late show:	
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People try to capture water in buckets flowing from a broken water main in Cite Soleil, Port-au-Prince, Monday, Jan. 18, 2010. Troops, doctors and aid workers continue to flow into Haiti even while hundreds of thousands of Tuesday's quake survivors struggled to find water or food.

(AP Photo/Gregory Bull)

Aruba Helps Bring Aid to Haiti

The island of Aruba is helping to bring aid to Haiti, following the devastating earthquake which nearly destroyed the country's capital city and killed thousands in the impoverished nation.

Red Cross Aruba is in the process of collecting funds from Aruban citizens and companies, and has been receiving an overwhelming number of calls from those looking to donate. Red Cross Aruba has opened bank accounts at all local banks for direct donations and will send the collected funds to Red Cross International, which is coordinating relief efforts with emergency supplies, technical assistance and other support to those in urgent need in Haiti. Red Cross Aruba is also organizing a relief effort to send local doctors and surgeons to Haiti to provide medical assistance along with Red Cross volunteers from Aruba.

Setar Aruba, a telecommunications company, is donating money raised by every customer who texts the word "Haiti" to their call line, which will collect about \$3 per text.

Digicel Aruba, a telecommunications company, has donated \$100,000 to a relief fund for Haiti, and is also donating 100 percent of proceeds from all customers who text the word "Help" to a call line that has been set up for the relief effort.

MetaCorp, an Aruba-based holding company, has donated about \$28,000 to Red Cross relief efforts and Burger King in Aruba has donated roughly \$3,000.

Additionally, De Schakel College, a private school on the island, is organizing fund raising activities and collecting clothing and supplies. □



People wait in line to get disaster relief supplies distributed by U.S. troops in Port-au-Prince, Haiti, Monday, Jan. 18, 2010. Troops, doctors and aid workers flowed into Haiti on Monday even while hundreds of thousands of Tuesday's quake victims struggled to find water or food.

(AP Photo/Jae C. Hong)

Netherlands - Koenders: Haiti is the most complex emergency aid operation ever



Los Angeles County Search and Rescue workers try to free 22-year-old Marie-France to receive medical attention following a 12-hour operation to rescue her from the rubble of a row of shops. Search and rescue teams from the United States pulled a record 10 people alive from the rubble of quake-struck Port-au-Prince on Sunday, the US Agency for International Aid said Monday.

(AFP/Julien Tack)

"The emergency aid operation in Haiti is the most complex of all time. Logistically, it's a Herculean undertaking, to which we're devoting all the resources at our disposal. It's a race against the clock," said Minister for Development Cooperation Bert Koenders.

"Besides the rescue operations, emergency relief workers are now focusing on providing medical care, shelter, water and food. I'm proud of the rescue work being done by the Dutch USAR team and our development staff."

"There are now 5 hospitals in operation," the minister went on to say. "250,000 litres of water has been distributed, and the first 50,000 people

have been given food by the WFP. But the country's infrastructure and any sort of heavy material have been completely destroyed. Everything has to be flown in. I'm concerned about the security situation, and both the UN and the US need to address this issue at once." Mr Koenders expects the HNLMS Pelikaan to arrive tomorrow morning with 77 service personnel and emergency relief goods.

The team, which consists of 44 marines from Aruba, 7 Aruban soldiers, 24 naval personnel and two members of the Royal Military and Border Police, can provide aid or support in a variety of ways. □

Churches to hold radiothon on Sunday for Haiti quake victims

PHILIPSBURG--The St. Maarten/Saint Martin Christian Council has announced that it will be teaming up with St. Maarten United Ministerial Foundation (SMUMF) and the Seventh Day Adventist Church to hold a radiothon in aid of the victims of last Tuesday's devastating earthquake in Haiti, on Sunday, January 24.

It said the funds raised would be sent to the Red Cross in Haiti to be distributed appropriately. All churches have been invited to participate in a "synchronisation meeting" at the Lions Den in Sucker Garden scheduled for tomorrow, Tuesday, January 19, from 4:30 to 5:30pm. The radiothon will be from 12:00 noon to 4:00pm Sunday and all radio stations on the

Dutch and French sides have been asked to cooperate.

"Churches are being asked to donate their offerings of January 23 and 24 to this worthy cause. The public at large is being asked to participate and answer to the call to assist Haiti in this difficult time," the council said. In explaining its decision to organise the radiothon, the Council noted, "As living human beings we can sometimes not understand the acts of God, but we have been taught to accept them and know the Lord is in control. He promised not to leave nor forsake us. As Christians, we know that we have to get up and strive to assist our brothers and sisters." □

Eighteen Dutch citizens missing



A Haitian earthquake victim family takes refuge in a car in Port-au-Prince. US Marines surged in to help the Haiti relief effort on Monday, but lawlessness pervaded with looters raiding shops in the quake-hit capital as rescue workers struggled to save lives and stave off disease.

(AFP/Jewel Samad)



Rose Marie Cadet, left, sits with her injured grandson as former President Bill Clinton, rear, tours the General Hospital in Port-au-Prince, Haiti Monday, Jan. 18, 2010. Clinton, the U.N. special envoy for Haiti, visited survivors of the powerful earthquake that rocked the country last week.

(AP Photo/Lynne Sladky)



Almost 200 evacuees crowd into a C-17 Globemaster at the Port-au-Prince airport on Sunday, Jan. 17, 2010. The C-17 Globemaster from McChord Air Force Base participated in a massive airlift of personnel and relief supplies into earthquake-damaged Haiti. The evacuees were taken to Orlando, Florida.

(AP Photo/Seattlepi.com, Joshua Trujillo)

WILLIEMSTAD -- Up to Saturday, there were eighteen Dutch citizens still unaccounted for, who were believed to have been in Haiti when the earthquake struck.

According to the Kingdom Ministry of Foreign Affairs, nine of these cases are of serious concern. The figure had been set at 17 on Friday, but the Netherlands Antilles had reported one more person of whom nothing had been heard.

"This is clearly a matter whereby developments occur as the hours pass," said BBB interim director Carel de Haseth.

Three bodies were found on Friday in Villa Therese, where Dutch citizens were reported to have been staying, but there was no identification of the victims.

This could also occur during late hours. For example, a request was received at midnight from Peruvian authorities to allow a military aircraft of that country into Antillean airspace. The aircraft was transporting relief goods to Haiti, and the shortest route regarding location and distance was through Antillean airspace.

In keeping with the purpose of relief, the Netherlands Antilles Air Traffic Control (NAATC) does not charge any route facility charges on such flights. □

"That request was therefore immediately granted in conformity with procedures," De Haseth explained. In this case it was a so-called "diplomatic clearance" that can be requested on a case-by-case basis, or for a period.

In the case of Brazil, which already does a considerable amount for Haiti wearing the blue helmets of the United Nations (UN), it qualifies for a "blanket clearance" by which, for example, Brazilian aircraft

are allowed to fly through Antillean airspace for the period of one year. However, aircraft types and the nature of the transports are described beforehand.

In keeping with the purpose of relief, the Netherlands Antilles Air Traffic Control (NAATC) does not charge any route facility charges on such flights. □

Local Red Cross airlifting goods to Haiti Wednesday

~ Noon Tuesday is drop-off deadline ~



shipped in containers at a later date, once requested by Haiti. The air freight departing on Wednesday will be accepted under the security of the Red Cross in Haiti for the proper distribution of the items based on "principle and priority."

The local Red Cross points out that this is the first time in decades that the French and Dutch Red Cross have worked together in a joint effort. The Red Cross is advising all local institutions

collecting items on behalf of the earthquake victims to channel these items through the Netherlands Antilles Red Cross, to get the job done in an orderly fashion.

The Red Cross noted that it is expecting a shipment of goods from the local business community today, Monday, along with medical supplies from the local pharmaceutical companies. Princess Juliana International Airport operating company Director Eugene Holiday has secured the ability to have the goods airlifted out of St. Maarten to Haiti. □

The local Red Cross, French St. Martin Red Cross, and Anguilla, St. Eustatius and Saba Red Cross chapters have banded together collecting items immediately necessary to the survivors, since reports of the magnitude 7.0 earthquake that struck Haiti

on Tuesday, January 12. The organisations have targeted water, food, hygiene items such as women's sanitary pads, toilet paper and baby diapers, as well as baby formula, bleach, medical supplies and tarpaulins. As for food items, the Red Cross has received and is recommending the contribution of beans, which are high in nutrition.

The Red Cross is also accepting linens, bedding and clothing. However, these items will be

Omar & Elizair earn top distinctions for November and December



PALM BEACH – A recent lunch party at the Sunset Grille Restaurant revealed the two last winners for 2009, Omar Castaneda, Housekeeping, and Elizair Pourier, Bellstand.

The two Star Team members were announced by the department of human resources and publicly praised for their stellar performances.

Omar, said Executive Housekeeper Bibi Rampersaud, juggles an array of responsibilities at his department, and also pitches in at other departments when asked. In possession of a perfect attendance record, Omar is the resort's carpet expert, dedicating much time to guest-rooms and public spaces, and cooperating

nicely with other staff members. Appreciated for his team play and his ever-readiness, Omar won top honors for November.

Elizair shoulders the responsibility of making his peer and his guests laugh, said Catering and Conference Services Manager, Tasha Agana. As one of the first faces met by resort guests at the lobby

entrance Elizair delivers warm welcomes and in-depth knowledge of 'what to do and where to go,' which he willingly shares. Appreciated for his sense of humor and dedication to guest service, Elizair won top honors for December. Other nominees included

Dolph Paesch, Larimar Spa, Marino Garcia, Pool & Beach, Vicky Rafael, Accounting, for November; and Miguel Giraldo, Stewarding, Winnie Mabalay, Beverage, Gerson Alcocer, Kitchen and Helene Ruiz, Accounting, for December. □



Caribbean Marketplace Attendance, Mood Portends Well For 2010 CHTA Urges 'Unity For Action'

Continued from Page B1

The Jamaica model, with their Tourism Enhancement Fund based on \$10 per airline ticket and a tax on cruise tickets to Jamaica, is evidence that such a plan could work. Jamaica's Tourism Enhancement Fund has proven its value in providing the country with the resources and war chest to mount and maintain an aggressive marketing campaign as well as attract new airlift.

De Marchena's remarks at Caribbean Marketplace were intended to emphasize that the time for action is now as well as spur an open dialogue among the region's public and private sector organizations which may result in additional recommendations for a viable alternative sustainable formula. However, regardless of the approach, one thing remains certain – immediate measures must be taken.

"Our fear is that many of the Caribbean nations are alienating themselves because of the lack of action. As a result of this inaction, certain destinations will further alienate other destinations," explained De Marchena.

"We are urging 'unity for action' to assure a sustainable tourism program which would help the economies of the Caribbean nations, including assisting in the alleviation of poverty throughout the region."

Unity of the private sector is reflected in the current success of Caribbean Marketplace which had a total of 391 booths as compared to 410 in 2009 and 306 supplier companies versus 335 last year. The fact that the number of attendees and booths maintained at similar level to last year's high levels is a reflection on the strong commitment to the market by CHTA members as well as the tour operators and wholesalers that promote and sell the Caribbean.

In addition, CHTA has already received tremendous interest in the upcoming 13th Annual Caribbean Hotel & Tourism

Investment Conference taking place May 4-6 in San Juan, Puerto Rico. "This is expected to be a crucial meeting of developers, bankers, tourism officials and hoteliers which always results in expansion and enhancement projects for the Caribbean destinations," said De Marchena.

In addition to CHTA and the strong support from Puerto Rico, sponsors of Caribbean Marketplace 2010 include: AM Resorts, Caribbean Travel + Life, Choice Hotels International, EventStar, Exposure 4, Forum Telcom, Green Globe, Interval International, InterContinental Hotels Group, St. Maarten Tourist Bureau, Starwood Caribbean Collection, Travelzoo, TripAdvisor, Tropical Shipping, Utell Hotels and Resorts – Pegasus, and World Group. Sponsors of the CHTA Board Meetings held earlier in the week included The New York Times and TravelScream.

"We are confident that by working together we can overcome the many challenges that face the global travel community and in doing so create new opportunities to ensure that the Caribbean remains the number one warm weather destination in the world," concluded De Marchena. □

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'Local vote'

Voter registry figures published in Saturday's paper confirm what was already becoming increasingly clear: People born in St. Maarten are in the minority when it comes voting in the January 22 Antillean Parliament elections. In fact, only 5,841 out of a total of 19,355 voters, less than one third, were "born here self." When it comes to people born in the entire Dutch Kingdom the total is 10,993, just over half the total number of voters. The other 8,362 voters were born outside the Dutch Kingdom, which includes former Dutch, but now independent territories such as Suriname and Indonesia.

What these figures mean is that mostly naturalised foreigners play an important role in the election. Large foreigner voter groups such as those from the Dominican Republic (1,423) and France (1,144) could easily spell the difference between obtaining a seat and not.

Some would argue that these figures are reason for concern, because born-St. Maarteners are increasingly losing out to people from elsewhere when it comes to influence over "their island." However, it must be remembered that this is all the result of the impressive economic development "The Friendly Island" has seen over the years to the benefit of the entire community, attracting people to its shores of whom many obviously have opted for the Dutch nationality.

With so many foreigners now living and working here, it is actually a good thing that a number of them have acquired citizenship and with it the right to vote. After all, if people from abroad are such a large part of the population, it makes sense to involve them in every aspect of society, including the all-important political process.

One should also keep in mind that most of these expatriates, in any case the legal residents and especially those who were naturalised, duly pay their taxes. Not having them participate in elections at all would amount to "taxation without representation."

For the parties and candidates participating in Friday's election it means their message must be geared to not only those who traditionally form the population make-up, but also those who came from elsewhere and not only made St. Maarten their home, but took on its nationality and as such can certainly be considered "local." □

Richardson expects exciting 2010 for tourism product

PHILIPSBURG--Though the opinions of industry experts may vary and St. Maarten's businesspeople are wary, Commissioner of Tourism Frans Richardson is confident that the island and its tourism product and partners will have an exciting 2010.

In an interview with the online publication Breaking Travel News (BTN), Commissioner Richardson said there were already positive signs of St. Maarten having a very good year, with record numbers of private jets and new airlift services out of Canada, Europe and South America.

He also referred to St. Maarten's cruise sector as remaining stable and showing growth in some areas, reports that travellers expect to take to the skies even more in 2010, and the island's drive to improve visitor experience through a number of new developments. "Our confidence in St. Maarten's tourism future growth prospects are partially also tied to the launch of a new branding campaign and strategy, setting it apart from our Caribbean competitors," he said.

"We have started and continue to develop plans that include improving our visitor experience by making major infrastructure improvements to alleviate traffic congestion, port infrastructure for increased cruise ship capacity as well as working with various stakeholders to increase the island's hotel room inventory," he told BTN. □



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Party leaders wrangle in first political debate

PHILIPSBURG--Combating crime, providing educational and job opportunities for the unemployed and leading St. Maarten into its new status were among the many issues discussed by the leaders of the three political parties contesting Friday's election when they went head to head in the AVS political debate Sunday evening.

The Philipsburg Cultural and Community Centre was a sea of mostly red and white with a sprinkling of orange as party supporters clad in their party colours listened to the debate and support their party leaders. Outside of posing questions, the audience was not allowed to applaud, although supporters of the two main parties clapped on two occasions following the response of their party leaders. However, they were hushed quickly by Master of Ceremonies (MC) Fernando Clark.

Combating crime was one of the recurring issues raised during the three-hour forum contested by Democratic Party (DP) leader Sarah Wescot-Williams, National Alliance (NA) leader William Marlin and People's Progressive Alliance (PPA) leader Gracita Arrindell, which was broadcast live on television.

On the issue of crime, Arrindell said the area of justice had been neglected over the years with limited manpower and finances. She said the PPA would not give "hollow promises," to the people of St. Maarten, as she said had been done by the leaders of the NA and the DP, but would do its utmost to acquire the necessary resources needed to combat crime.

"We will not take a 'no' for an answer..." Arrindell said. "We will stand up for the people of St. Maarten just like we did on the floor of the Island Council from 2004 to 2008 ... and we will do the same in Curaçao. [We will] get the funds for our men and women, get the funds to set up correctional offices,

the prison system and for prosecutors. ..." Calling the crime situation unfortunate, Marlin said there was a connection between the crime today and youths who he said had not been "properly educated" in the past. He said young men, some as young as 16-17 years, were being detained for criminal activities. Men who he said had been children 10 years ago. "It shows a connection between the lack of proper education that has been plaguing us," Marlin said. He alluded to a group of about 100 young men with whom he had met recently, 95 per cent whom he said had been denied employment opportunities. "These situations go hand in hand with crime..." Marlin said, noting that a proactive approach was needed. "Even if you bring in 100 police officers, if we don't give our young men and women proper opportunities" this concern won't be adequately addressed.

He spoke about the redesigned Police Force for Country St. Maarten, for which he said funding had already been acquired and for which recruitment is underway. The redesign includes properly equipping and bolstering the force.

Wescot-Williams said crime was not an issue to "play politics with." She said the DP was of the view that crime had a correlation with the social and economic circumstances of people, noting that research was needed to determine to what extent this was the case. "Once this is proven, it will be clear where the most of our resources should be directed," Wescot-Williams said.

She said resources should be directed to address the "root causes" of crime, adding that investment in "repressive measures" was also needed.

Other issues broached during the debate were whether the Corporate Governance Council was functioning, to which Marlin said there had been no transition

agreement for the council to start functioning immediately after its members had been appointed. Recruitment of personnel for Country St. Maarten, the employment permit policy, the lack of social services and housing were other areas on which heavy focus was placed. Some of the questions were personal in nature, such as one directed to Arrindell by someone who said he was still waiting on a wheelchair he had been promised.

Panellists fielded questions from the audience. Questions were also sent in via e-mail and posed by the moderator, The Daily Herald Publisher Paul de Windt.

Arrindell said that while both the NA and the DP had told the people of St. Maarten that separate status would come by 2007, this had not yet been attained. "Why would anyone believe anything they say today?" she asked. "We need new leadership and a change," she added noting that the PPA was the change needed.

"Over the decades political leaders entrusted to guard the patrimony of the people have not kept their promises. This has led to a serious distrust by our people in their elected officials' ability to govern with transparency and accountability. PPA in Parliament/Government will restore these values by keeping the people of St. Maarten fully informed while pushing an 'exit package,'" she said.

Marlin said the NA, with two of the three parliamentary seats, had worked with "great commitment," "utmost dedication" and "total faith" for the people of St. Maarten. He said the party had worked to help the public see through the "smokescreen" that he said some were attempting to create "in an attempt to confuse you and make you believe that all the challenges we are facing as St. Maarten began only yesterday. □

Parliament: Restrict BES islands' non-Dutch national voting rights

THE HAGUE--Parties in the Second Chamber of the Dutch Parliament are against granting non-Dutch nationals in the BES islands Bonaire, St. Eustatius and Saba who have lived there for five years or more voting rights in the local Island Council elections.

It is feared that non-Dutch nationals might gain indirect influence on the Dutch Parliament's First Chamber through their representation in the local Island Councils.

The proposed changes to the Dutch Electoral Law (Kieswet) currently being handled by the Dutch Parliament would grant active voting rights to citizens in the BES islands, which would make it possible for residents to vote in the Second Chamber elections as well as the European elections.

However, the adapted law would also make it possible for members of the BES Island Councils to vote in the elections of the Dutch Provincial States (Provinciale Staten) when these islands become "public entities" of the Netherlands on 10-10-10. Members of the Provincial States elect the members of the First Chamber, the Senate.

Dutch Municipal Councils don't have voting rights in the Provincial States' elections.

Member of Parliament (MP) Johan Remkes of the liberal democratic VVD party submitted late last week an amendment to the proposal to adapt the Electoral Law for the BES islands. The amendment seeks to eliminate the passage in the proposed law change granting voting rights in the Island Council elections to non-Dutch nationals who have lived on the islands legally for five years or more.

Remkes pointed out that in the European part of the Kingdom persons without Dutch nationality couldn't vote in the Provincial States' elections, to prevent this group having indirect influence on the First Chamber.

"For reasons of principle and for equal treatment of all citizens of the Netherlands, the active voting right for the Island Council elections should not be granted to non-Dutch nationals," he said, adding that it wasn't about the numbers, as it didn't concern a large group of people, but about the principle of nationality.

"It opens the door ajar and I think we should keep that door closed," he said during Friday's meeting of Parliament's Permanent Committee for Antillean and Aruban Affairs NAAZ, where the first six legislation proposals for the BES islands were handled.

Remkes' amendment, which still has to be voted on, might receive support from many parties, possibly even from coalition parties Christian Democratic Party CDA and Labour Party PvdA. Parliament's general feeling was in line with the thoughts of the Council of State, which, in its advice, had expressed objections to granting voting rights to non-Dutch nationals in the Provincial States.

MP Bas Jan van Bochove (CDA) said his party hadn't received an "adequate answer" to the question how government intended to restrict the indirect influence by non-Dutch nationals on the First Chamber. In Bonaire, 82 per cent of the people have Dutch nationality, as do 56 per cent in Saba and 60 per cent in St. Eustatius. Van Bochove wondered why members of the Island Council who didn't have

Dutch nationality had voting rights in the Provincial States elections. "CDA is asking government to adapt its standpoint on this matter and to exclude Island Council members without Dutch nationality from participating in these Dutch elections." He announced that he was preparing an amendment on this matter.

MP John Leerdam (PvdA) said the Dutch Government seemed to choose a "practical solution" for the "problem of voters' influence. ... Government is saying that this influence will be very limited. On what does government base this assumption?" asked Leerdam, who suggested an independent investigation on the matter.

The largest opposition party Socialist Party (SP) didn't mind granting voting rights to voters without Dutch nationality, but opposed members of the Island Council voting in the Provincial States' elections.

"The First Chamber is elected by the Provincial States and Bonaire, Saba and St. Eustatius don't resort under a province," said MP Ronald van Raak (SP). □

Presidente electo Sebastián Piñera podría incluir rivales en gabinete en Chile

SANTIAGO (Reuters)

- Sebastián Piñera se estrenó el lunes como el primer mandatario electo de derecha en medio siglo en Chile, y dijo que podría incluir adversarios políticos en su gabinete, mientras el derrotado bloque de centroizquierda apuntaba a rearmarse desde la oposición.

El multimillonario empresario obtuvo un 51,6 por ciento de los votos en la segunda vuelta de la elección presidencial el domingo, imponiéndose frente al ex mandatario Eduardo Frei, el candidato de la Concertación, la coalición que por dos décadas ha gobernado en el país.

“Vamos a aspirar a un gabinete no sólo de (su grupo político) la Coalición por el Cambio, sino que (de) independientes y quizás de la Concertación”, dijo Piñera a corresponsales extranjeros. “(Quiero) un Gobierno de unidad nacional (...) Vamos a nombrar un nuevo equipo de Gobierno y de excelencia”, agregó.

Piñera, quien dijo que hará todo lo posible para promover las inversiones y se ha abierto a contar en su Gobierno con colaboradores de la dictadura del dictador Augusto Pinochet (1973-1990), recibió en la mañana en su casa a la mandataria Michelle Bachelet, quien lo felicitó en un desayuno.

“Le he señalado a Sebastián Piñera (...) un fluido intercambio entre el Gobierno que va a salir el 11 de marzo y el Gobierno que va a ingresar, de manera que Chile pueda seguir avanzando”, dijo Bachelet a periodistas.

DEBUT

INTERNACIONAL

Bachelet invitó a Piñera a acompañarla a la cumbre

del Grupo de Río del 22 y 23 de febrero en el balneario mexicano de Cancún, para “ser presentado” a los mandatarios de la región. En la región, Piñera se sumará a los presidentes de centroderecha que ya gobiernan en México, Colombia y Perú, y quienes han tomado distancia del izquierdista mandatario venezolano, Hugo Chávez. Uno de los primeros jefes de Estado que saludó a Piñera presidente fue el mandatario peruano, Alan García, quien pidió un diálogo fluido para resolver los problemas bilaterales. Chile y Perú “tienen una enorme, fecunda, ambiciosa agenda de futuro”, dijo el electo mandatario.

El canciller peruano, José García Belaunde, dijo el lunes que espera que un litigio bilateral en la Corte Internacional de Justicia de La Haya por los límites marítimos no impida mantener e impulsar la integración económica con Chile.

Piñera, quien indirectamente todavía posee fuertes inversiones en Perú a través de la aerolínea LAN, coincidió en que esperaba que la demanda peruana en La Haya “no se transforme en un freno y obstáculo”.

El presidente electo chileno dijo también que Argentina y Brasil están entre las prioridades de sus primeros viajes internacionales. Piñera ha dicho que le gusta el liderazgo del presidente brasileño, Luiz Inácio Lula da Silva. Piñera fue felicitado también por los mandatarios de Colombia, Alvaro Uribe; de México, Felipe Calderón; y de Argentina, Cristina Fernández.

BOLSA CIERRA EN MAXIMO HISTORICO

La bolsa reaccionó



El candidato de derecha Sebastián Piñera, resultó favorecido en las elecciones celebradas este domingo en Chile. El multimillonario empresario obtuvo un 51,6 por ciento de los votos, imponiéndose frente al ex mandatario Eduardo Frei, el candidato de la Concertación, la coalición que por dos décadas ha gobernado en el país. REUTERS/Eliseo Fernandez

favorablemente al triunfo de Piñera, a quien se le considera un amigo de los mercados, pero sus posturas proempresariales podrían chocar con las de los sindicatos.

El índice IPSA de la Bolsa de Comercio de Santiago subió un 1,24 por ciento a un nuevo récord máximo de cierre.

Aunque con bajos montos negociados, la estrella de la jornada fue Axxion, una sociedad de inversiones a través de la que Piñera tiene una parte del 26 por ciento que controla en LAN. Las acciones de Axxion subieron un 8,53 por ciento.

Piñera ha anunciado que venderá sus acciones en LAN antes que asuma como presidente. Las acciones de LAN subieron un 1,33 por

Codelco seguirá siendo una empresa estatal, aunque requiere de capitales frescos para un nuevo impulso.

“Vamos a hacer cambios profundos en Codelco. Ha perdido eficiencia y productividad. Necesita nuevo impulso y para eso va a requerir nuevos capitales”, dijo Piñera a periodistas. El mandatario electo agregó que cualquier posibilidad de incorporar capitales privados a la compañía “requiere de un diálogo y acuerdo amplio de la sociedad”.

RETO PARA NUEVO GOBIERNO

La elección marcó el fin de los gobiernos de la Concertación, que recuperó la democracia en 1990, dio prosperidad económica, desarrollo social y que llevó al país a uno de los menores niveles de riesgo crediticio en América Latina.

Pero Piñera enfrentará un Congreso fragmentado y dominado por la coalición oficialista en el Senado. Dirigentes de la Concertación llamaron a abrir espacios en el bloque, que ha anticipado que será una oposición constructiva, pero firme, al Gobierno de Piñera.

“Tiene que haber una renovación que incluye muchas cosas, sobre todo hay que abrirse a la ciudadanía”, dijo Carolina Tohá, quien fue jefa de la campaña de Frei. □

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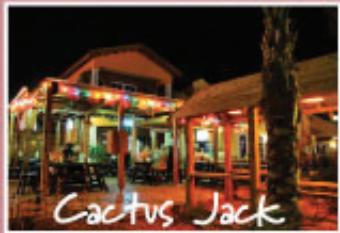


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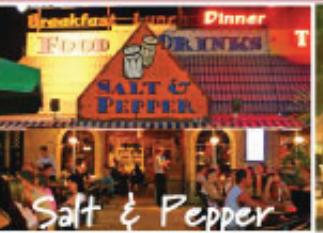
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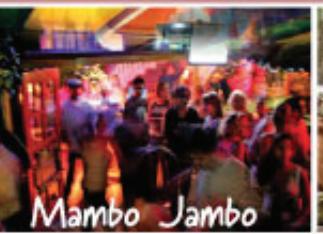
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